

THE TIMES Monday

Profile looks at Georges Marchais, the ailing head of the equally ailing French Communist Party. Since he took over as general secretary in 1972, support for the communists in France has plummeted. Can Marchais survive? Also a new weekly feature, "Findings", reports on some fascinating turn-ups by the archaeologists. Spectrum visits the cradle of British pop, celebrating its silver jubilee.

Less cash for crime victims

About half the victims of violent crimes will be excluded from the Government's injuries compensation scheme because the lower limit for claims has been raised from £250 to £400 from March 1, according to the National Association of Victims Support Schemes. Page 3

Polar explorer airlifted off ice

David Hempleman-Adams, the lone polar walker, was airlifted off the Arctic ice, shaken and hungry. The 36-year-old adventurer from Bristol had been trapped in his tent for four days in a blizzard. Page 1

Output up 1.1%

Britain is leading the world out of recession, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, claimed after a 1.1 per cent rise in industrial production in February was announced. Page 11

Airliner seized

A Turkish airliner on an internal flight from Istanbul to Izmir was hijacked to Athens where 27 of the 107 passengers were freed. The hijackers demanded to speak with the Australian ambassador. Page 2

Train robbery

A gang of robbers hiding on an overnight mail train ransacked 60 mailbags before fleeing as the train approached Crewe. Page 2

Family money

Investors in the only fund investing in the Unlisted Securities Market have seen their money grow by 48 per cent over 18 months. But the City is still sceptical. Page 14

Bishop flies out

The Bishop of Liverpool, Dr David Sheppard, left London on his way to Argentina, the first British church leader to go there since the Falklands conflict. Page 4

Kohl's US talks

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany met President Reagan in Washington yesterday to review US-Soviet arms talks and to prepare for next month's economic summit. Page 1

Secret flight

A drug smuggler who turned supergrass was flown out of Britain secretly in an RAF jet because of fears for his life. Page 3

Cup troubles

All four FA Cup semi-finalists, Manchester United, Arsenal, Brighton and Sheffield Wednesday have had their plans disrupted by injuries. Page 22

Marathon critic

Ron Hill, the world's most experienced long distance runner, said that marathon running in Britain has not progressed since his heyday in 1969-70. Page 20

Saturday

In today's edition of *Saturday*, David Hewson examines how he real life revolution has transformed the drinking habits of millions of Britons. The right-page arts and leisure section of *The Times* also looks at how the Royal Family is unravelling in video, the fertile creek island of Kos, how to 2-ld a Victorian-type conservatory on your home and the week's coming events in the arts.

Leader page 7
Letters: Citizen's advice bureau, from Mr J. A. Millson; war widows, from Mr Merlyn; Mrs L. Strange; bird protection, from Mr Ian Prest. Leading articles: Timing of election; Economic recovery. Features, page 8
Generating new ideas for chatterbox; how television trivializes politics; a thumping debut for jumbo polo. Obituary, page 8
Mr J. B. Pennybacker, Mr J. S. Shapiro, Mr Geoffrey Morley

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Thatcher rallying call for three wins in a row

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher last night put Conservative parliamentary candidates on the alert for the general election but, as expected, kept them in the dark over the date.

The 150 candidates gathered in a Harfordshire hotel for a rallying call and pep talk from their leader, were however, left in no doubt that June is very much an option in her mind.

The Prime Minister emphasized last night, as she had in radio and television interviews earlier, that she had not yet decided whether to go to the country in June and would wait until after the fourth anniversary of the May 1979 victory before considering the matter.

She tantalized her audience of parliamentary hopefuls in an after-dinner speech in which she said there were four options for the election: June, October, next March, and May 1984.

Mrs Thatcher, who had earlier spoken on radio of her vision of a return to "eternal" values of the Victorian era, told the candidates to set their sights on achieving Tory rule well into the 1990s.

Recalling her off-repeated remarks that her Government would need two parliaments, she said that the revised objection must now be to ensure that there were three consecutive Conservative governments.

Mr Thatcher's remarks, at the Crest Hotel in South Mimms, were nothing more than would have been expected in such an occasion, but her confident message clearly warned the candidates to be ready for June. When the election came they must put forward the Government's positive policies on the

Lighter fuel bomb defused

A letter bomb was sent to the hotel where the Prime Minister was meeting Conservative party candidates last night. The device, addressed to Mr Jeremy Hanley, chairman of the Conservative Party Candidates Association, was defused by a bomb disposal officer.

Mr Robert Key, the candidate for Salisbury, Wiltshire, was suspicious about the 7in by 5in parcel which arrived at the Crest Hotel, South Mimms, Hertfordshire, at tea time.

He made a hole in the side then carried it into the garden where police were called.

The bomb, of lighter fuel, was believed to have been sent by the Scottish National Liberation Army, which claimed responsibility for "attacks" yesterday and today but did not specify targets.

produced the conditions for a more competitive Britain able to make the most of the economic upturn, that it had pursued resolutely its policy of achieving a property-owning democracy and that its social

services record, particularly in regard to pensioners, was good.

Many of the candidates attending the weekend conference are standing in seats where their chances are promising and they were hoping to use the opportunity of conversations with Mrs Thatcher to show their eagerness for an early fight.

Party organizers were trying yesterday, with little success to play down the significance of the conference, saying that it was an annual event and should not be seen as a pre-election council of war.

If Mrs Thatcher was being reticent about the poll date and there were signs among her close advisers yesterday of a wish to dampen the speculation, the recent bout of election fever seemed but last night to have afflicted some of her more cautious senior ministers.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, who has favoured an October election, said in Stockport, Greater Manchester, he detected a mood of optimism. The worst of the recession was over and people were beginning to realize that in the long run the Government's policies had been right ones for creating future jobs.

"We have weathered the recession because we have remained resolute," Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Transport, said in Birmingham that the signs of economic recovery are quickening and Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, emphasized the importance of the May local elections to Conservative general election hopes.

Continued on page 2, col 2

Local party challenge to Silkin

By Our Political Staff

Mr John Silkin's attempt to take control of the *Tribune* newspaper has run into such fierce opposition within his local constituency party that his position as an MP may be challenged.

Four of the ward branches in his seat at Lewisham, Deptford, have passed resolutions calling on him to cease his legal action against the left-wing journal or to stand down as Labour candidate at the next general election.

Under the party's rules for the selection of parliamentary candidates, Mr Silkin, shadow leader of the Commons and Labour's chief defence spokesman, would not have been opposed in a constituency whose boundaries were only marginally altered.

But among some local activists there is talk of mounting a challenge to him at the usually formal adoption meeting which precedes the general election if he persists in his attempt. Sources said yesterday that so unpopular has his action against *Tribune* become that the challenges might succeed.

The attempt by a consortium led by Mr Silkin and Lord Bruce of Donington to take control of *Tribune*, prompted by concern at the *Banister* direction it was adopting, appeared to have thwarted in December by a counter-coup.

At a board meeting which neither attended it was agreed to set up an employee shareholding scheme which enabled the employees effectively to buy enough shares to outvote the consortium.

Mr Silkin and Lord Bruce have since initiated legal action against the *Tribune* staff and the chairman of *Tribune* Publications, Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham, West. They have also opposed moves to set up a friendly society, arguing that there was no guarantee that all its members would be members of the Labour Party.

Wife urges Nkomo to return home

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe Opposition leader who has been living here in self-imposed exile for the past five weeks, telephoned friends in Bulawayo yesterday after hearing that his wife was appealing for him to return.

But he brushed aside questions later. "My wife knows I am going to return. I have explained to you already."

Mrs Nkomo Nkomo is living "under house arrest" in Bulawayo, in the home where Mr Nkomo's driver was shot dead by Government troops.

Repeating her appeal on *The World as One* radio programme, however, she said that the police guard had been placed around the house for her own protection and at her request. There were three policemen there in the afternoon and more at night. "If the police can protect me, an ordinary person, how about a Member of Parliament?" she added.

She had read in the newspapers the assurance by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, that her husband would be free to return, but she had been unable to contact him in London earlier this week. "I have not spoken to him for three weeks. If I could do so now, I would say: 'Come home straight away. I know you will be safe.'"

Whether her plea will be enough to allay Mr Nkomo's suspicions remains to be seen - although he insists now that his personal safety is no longer the main barrier to his return.

It was presumably to reassure her that he contacted friends in Bulawayo - avoiding direct contact with his house whose telephone is assuredly tapped by Mr Mugabe's security forces.

But he remains reticent about his future plans, beyond saying that he no longer fears for his own safety on returning home - a fear which was his original reason for flying to Britain after the raid upon his house.

How long he intends to stay in Britain is still a mystery. His initial plan to fly home on April 6 was postponed in the light of Mr Mugabe's rejection of Zimbabwe's Catholic pastoral letter in which they recoiled from the atrocities in Matabeleland.

Walesa set to meet underground again

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, former Solidarity leader, announced yesterday that he would again meet fugitive leaders of the union underground wing, despite the investigations that have opened into his first secret rendezvous.

Speaking in Gdansk, Mr Walesa said: "I will have another meeting." Asked whether this would not endanger the underground men, Mr Walesa remarked: "I guarantee it was safe (last time) - and I will do it again."

The Polish authorities yesterday interrogated the driver of

Warsaw ghetto row, page 5

Romania expels man Britain returned

By David Nicholson-Lord

A Labour MP last night called for the resignation of Mr David Waddington, Minister of State at the Home Office, after the disclosure that the young Romanian deported from Britain a month ago has now been expelled from Romania.

Mr Stancu Papusoiu, aged 29, was thrown out of Romania on April 6 and is now in a hotel in Austria, according to reports reaching a friend in Britain. Miss Shan Rees, who was Mr Papusoiu's English teacher, has received a letter from him posted in Austria earlier this week.

Miss Rees said last night: "He left Romania without any money and he was on the train without a ticket. I think that is where he was found. As far as I



Mr Papusoiu: In detention.

understand he is under arrest at the moment."

The Home Office's decision to refuse the Romanian asylum and then to deport him led to considerable criticism of the Government from the Con-

servative as well as the Labour benches.

The Government took the line that he was not a genuine political refugee and that there were some inconsistencies in his story.

Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North and one of the chief parliamentary critics of the decision, said he would be tabling a question to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to elicit more facts, but the expulsion showed that the Home Office had made a blunder in ordering Mr Papusoiu's deportation.

Mr Winnick added: "If he has now been expelled from Romania, it does prove the point being made at the time of his deportation from Britain, that his Romanian nationality was open to doubt. One must



Arms and the woman: Mrs Thatcher being shown artificial arms and hands while visiting the Queen Mary Hospital, Roehampton, south London, yesterday.

Sir Larry appointed editor of 'Express'

By Rupert Morris

The *Daily Express* acquired its fifth new editor in six years yesterday with the appointment of Sir Larry Lamb, a former editor of *The Sun*, to succeed Mr Christopher Ward, editor of the *Daily Express* for the past 18 months.

Sir Larry will take over the editorship on Monday, after a typically brutal episode in the traditionally unpredictable world of Fleet Street.



Mr Ward (left) and Sir Larry Lamb.

understood to have summoned Mr Ward back from a holiday on the West Coast of America to inform him that Sir Larry Lamb was being brought in as Editor-in-Chief.

Yesterday's announcement from Express Newspapers said Mr Ward was "leaving the newspaper by mutual agreement".

The move comes as no great surprise because although Mr Ward is thought by many newspaper experts to have made substantial improvements to the appearance and content of the paper, he has been unable to arrest its steady decline in circulation.

Sir Larry, aged 53, when editor of *The Sun*, raised its circulation from 650,000 in 1969 to more than three million by the mid-1970s.

Although Lord Mathews will undoubtedly be pleased to have secured Sir Larry's services, the new editor faces a daunting challenge. Circulation fell below two million, for the first time last year.

Mr Ward, aged 40, formerly assistant editor of the *Daily Mirror*, told members of his staff yesterday that April 15 was an unlucky date in his family; his uncle had been a clarinet player on board the Titanic when it sank on the same day 61 years ago.

BL threat to dismiss all Cowley workers

By Clifford Webb

Austin Rover management last night accepted the challenge thrown down by the unions and threatened to dismiss all 5,000 employees at its Cowley assembly plant unless they end their three-week "washing-up" strike almost immediately.

Because letters containing the threat were only dispatched to employees late last night and may not be received until later today, the company refused to disclose details of their contents. However, it is understood to have set a deadline for a return to work within seven days.

The move was anticipated by local union officials early in the dispute. They advised their members to accept a deadline and return to work, but key groups of workers would almost certainly follow up with "guerrilla" strikes which would be almost as damaging as the present full-scale stoppage.

Earlier in the day Mr Harold Mugrove, chairman of BL's Austin Rover subsidiary, accused Cowley shop stewards of using the dispute to try to restore the power base they lost two years ago when national union leaders accepted a radical programme of new working practices.

He said in a statement: "Many of the people behind

these wild claims about 'brutality' and 'slavery' want a return to the days of the early 1970s when every decision could effectively be vetoed by any shop steward so inclined, when dogmatic insistence on the right to veto even the most minor shop floor change throttled our ability to compete with the rapidly improving industries of Japan, and western Europe."

"Unfortunately, there are some people who once wielded the power of veto, who resent the changes which have taken place despite the fact that employees have benefited. Some of these people are now cynically portraying their loss of influence as some sort of general movement by management to oppress the entire workforce."

The strike looks set to go into its fourth week following Thursday's vote to stay out until the company drops plans to end the three minute washing up period. It has already cost £60m in lost production, half of it new Maestros.

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Employment Minister, yesterday accused production line workers of trying to disrupt BL's recovery efforts.

Kelpers bitter over visit

From Alan Hamilton Port Stanley

British forces in the Falkland Islands have full contingency plans ready to deal with a shipload of Argentine war dead relatives if and when they arrive to visit their discredited and well hidden war cemetery in the hills above Goose Green.

Many islanders, however, still feel bitter that the visit may go ahead. If the relatives arrive, one group of islanders is planning to drive the 60 miles over rough moorland from Port Stanley to the cemetery to hold a silent protest with banners and placards.

Sir Rex Hunt, the Civil Commissioner, told *The Times* yesterday that if the visit was to take place it was still essential that it be purely humanitarian, that it be capable of close control by the International Red Cross, and that it meet all other conditions already laid down by the British Government.

"I am assured by London that the Government are in touch with the Red Cross, and I have assured councillors here that they will be closely informed," Sir Rex said.

If the ship arrives it will be guided by the Royal Navy to an anchorage near Darwin where it will be out of sight of any settlements. Passengers will be escorted to the cemetery and escorted straight back again, and there is no question of them being allowed to visit battlefields, as the British relatives were.

The cemetery itself is set across a narrow inlet from Darwin and Goose Green, on the far side of a hill so that it is visible from no house set among moorland that is bleak even by Falklands standards.

Britain expels another Russian

By Henry Stanhope Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office has expelled another Russian diplomat in response to the expulsion of two Britons from Moscow. He is Mr Anatoly Chernyayev, a Third of an art Secretary, who has been at the Soviet Embassy in London since September 1979.

These seems to be no suggestion that he has done anything improper and the Foreign Office decision, which is thought to reflect Mrs Thatcher's tough line in dealing with the Kremlin, is likely to interpret Anglo-Soviet relations to refer to a new low.

The Soviet Ambassador, Mr Viktor Popov, reacted angrily when he was informed by the Foreign Office during a brief encounter yesterday afternoon. A short statement by the Soviet Embassy later underlined Russian feelings.

Last week's Soviet decision to expel Squadron Leader David Williams, assistant air attaché at the British Embassy and Mr Anthony Robinson, Moscow correspondent of the *Financial Times*, was in itself a tit-for-tat action after the expulsion of three Russian officials from Britain at Easter.

The Foreign Office warned the Soviet Union at the time that it would take "an extremely serious view" of any retaliation - an unusually strong choice of words, which led observers to speculate about the possibilities of yet another sudden departure.

It now remains to be seen whether the Russians will once more retaliate and what might happen next.

Last night's explanation by the Foreign Office made quite clear that this latest move is in response to the "unjustified" Soviet action against Squadron Leader Williams and Mr Robinson.

This Soviet retaliation had been a "spiteful retaliation" for the ejection of three Soviet citizens from London, who, the Foreign Office claimed, had been spying.

A spokesman added that yesterday's British action was in response to the particular situation created by the "victimisation" of the two British naval attachés.

Britain will not reduce the overall ceiling on Soviet diplomats in Britain. This will remain at 43, which means that Mr Chernyayev can, and probably will, be replaced.

The Soviet Embassy described the British action as "totally unjustified" and "without foundation".

"We regard it as a political measure on the British side, meant to undermine British-Soviet relations. The responsibility for any possible consequences rested entirely with the British side, the Soviet spokes-

VICTORIA WINE

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Postal workers' leaders hail 6 per cent pay settlement

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of 150,000 postal workers are recommending acceptance of a pay deal worth about 6 per cent, which is towards the upper half of settlements in the present pay round for public workers.

The Union of Communication Workers said the award was worth more than 6 per cent to most of its members, while the Post Office management estimated it was lower. Mr Alan Tuffin, the union's general secretary, said last night: "This is the first time for four years that we have settled at a rate above inflation."

"Although we were unable to secure additional increases to close differentials with supervising grades and to get shorter hours, the deal is a good one."

The award comprises a 5 per cent increase from the beginning of this month, with a further 1 per cent from August 1 and other improvements, including an extra day's holiday. The Post Office said the deal would mean a 5.5 per cent increase in the pay bill taking the holiday into account, the total value of the package was 5.8 per cent.

The £70m deal makes special provision for younger workers, and staff aged 18 will receive increases worth about 9.7 per cent.

The result of a ballot among union members, including postmen, sorters and counter staff, will be known early next month.

The Labour Party-TUC agreement on a programme for economic growth will meet opposition from delegates at the National Union of Public Employees conference, where several motions opposing any form of wage restraint are expected to receive strong support.

Conference delegates will be asked to back the union's policy of survival for a minimum wage equivalent to two thirds of the national average wage, through free collective bargaining.

One motion maintains the NUPES members gain nothing from free collective bargaining, but that it is unlikely to receive

conference support. The TUC-Labour agreement, which calls for pay to be drawn into a wider agreement on national economic assessment, will also be opposed by left-wing delegates.

Forty-thousand workers in the chemicals industry have backed their union leaders' rejection of a 4.5 per cent pay offer. Further talks are to be held with the employers when the unions will press for an offer closer to the 8 per cent increase in the hourly rate which negotiators claim was agreed for 15,000 drug and fine chemical workers on Wednesday.

One-day strikes by firemen at the end of the month look more likely as voting in regions of the Fire Brigades Union appeared to be strongly following the union executive's call for a strike over pension contributions.

Delegates to a special conference called for April 26 are being mandated by their branches and if the conference backs the executive the strikes will start in the last four days of the month.

Kraft jobs fight for Europe

Unions at the Kraft Foods plant at Kirby, in Merseyside, yesterday announced a three-point plan to try to save 930 jobs at the plant.

The eight unions represented at the factory met at the offices in Liverpool of the Union of Distributive and Allied Workers to elect an action committee to resist the company's plans to switch cheese production to Belgium and West Germany.

Mr Paul Gaffney, the union's area organizer, said they had decided to fight on a political basis. "Local and county councillors will be asked to exert pressure in the area, MPA government departments and the Merseyside task force will be asked to exert pressure in Westminster and Euro MPs will be asked to aid us in the European Assembly."

Kraft says it is transferring production to the Continent for greater efficiency, leaving only

220 jobs at the Merseyside plant.

A busmen's strike at Doncaster widened yesterday when drivers from another firm joined the dispute over gypsy caravans. Bus crews employed by the Yorkshire Traction Company supported 457 colleagues with South Yorkshire Passenger Transport, who voted for an indefinite strike on Thursday.

Drivers employed by Trent Motor Traction Bus Company, in Nottingham, yesterday decided to strike from today in protest over the suspension of two drivers.

The two men had refused to transport cash takings to the bank, claiming that it was a security risk.

Workers at a television factory in South Wales yesterday voted to end a week-long stoppage after a closure threat from the company's Anglo-Japanese management.

Two thirds of the 1,200 manual employees at the GEC-Hitachi plant, at Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan, backed their shop stewards' recommendation to return on Monday.

The decision at a mass meeting means their pay will be frozen for a third consecutive year and they will lose about £6 a week on a revised bonus scheme.

Shipbuilding workers in Scotland may resort to occupying their yards if the 9,000 redundancies threatened by British Shipbuilders throughout the country are implemented.

The threat emerged yesterday at the Gowanus yard, on the Clyde near Glasgow, where up to a third of the 3,500 workers face redundancy.

Unions representing 460,000 teachers in England and Wales last night accepted a 4.98 per cent pay offer from local authorities in London.

Nalogo's deputy general secretary chosen to take over leadership

By Our Labour Correspondent

The National and Local Government Officers Association (Nalogo), Britain's fourth largest union, has chosen Mr John Daly, aged 52, as general secretary to succeed Mr Geoffrey Drain, who retires in November.

Mr Daly, the deputy general secretary, was appointed by the Nalogo executive from a short list of five candidates and is expected to continue the tradition of moderate leadership in the union.

He has been Nalogo official since 1968, joining the union from the TUC's education

department. He has spent periods as organizer in the union's health and gas sections, local government service conditions officer and assistant general secretary, before becoming Mr Drain's deputy at the beginning of last year.

Others on the short list were Mr Alan Jinks, an assistant general secretary of Nalogo, Mr David Christie, deputy general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, Mr John Ward, general secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, and Mr Ernest Baxendale, Nalogo's dis-

Tories 'fail' over liberties

The "failure" of Conservative backbench MPs to defend civil liberties beyond the threat posed by the compulsory wearing of seat belts is attacked by the National Council for Civil Liberties in its annual report published today (Frances Gibb writes).

Ms Patricia Hewitt, general secretary, said: "The British Conservative Party has its own tradition of libertarianism, as well as a strong strand of tolerant liberalism."

But that tradition had been "commandeered by a right wing which cannot see any greater threat from the state to the individual than compulsory seat belts, while the liberal elements have been routed on virtually every issue on which they have made a stand."

In 1976 Conservative MPs joined the council in opposing extensive new powers of search and entry for inland revenue officials. "In 1982 the same MPs had nothing to say against proposed police powers which would be used against ordinary people and their doctors or social workers."

Thatcher rallies party's Westminster hopefuls

Continued from page 1

Speaking in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, she also launched an outspoken attack on the "loony women of Greenham and CND." They were the true heirs of the ladies of the third who thought Hitler could be held by preaching disarmament.

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, weighed in with a salvo against "Thatcher's seven deadly promises." He accused her of breaking her promises to provide real jobs, cut taxes, not to increase prescription charges, not to double VAT, to give pensioners a fair deal, improve law and order and provide better education. It had been promises all the way about economic recovery from May 1979 to this week, Mr Foot said.

Earlier, in an independent Radio News interview, Mrs Thatcher again extolled the

Victorian values of self-reliance and a willingness to help others. She said she had been brought up by a Victorian grandmother, and continued: "You were taught to work hard, you were taught to improve yourself, you were taught self-reliance, you were taught to win, you were taught to be a good member of your community."

Those were Victorian values, the Prime Minister said, but they were also perennial values. People had been brought up with a sense of duty, which had led to a tremendous improvement in conditions in Victorian times.

Hebden and Plaskett lead in London chess

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

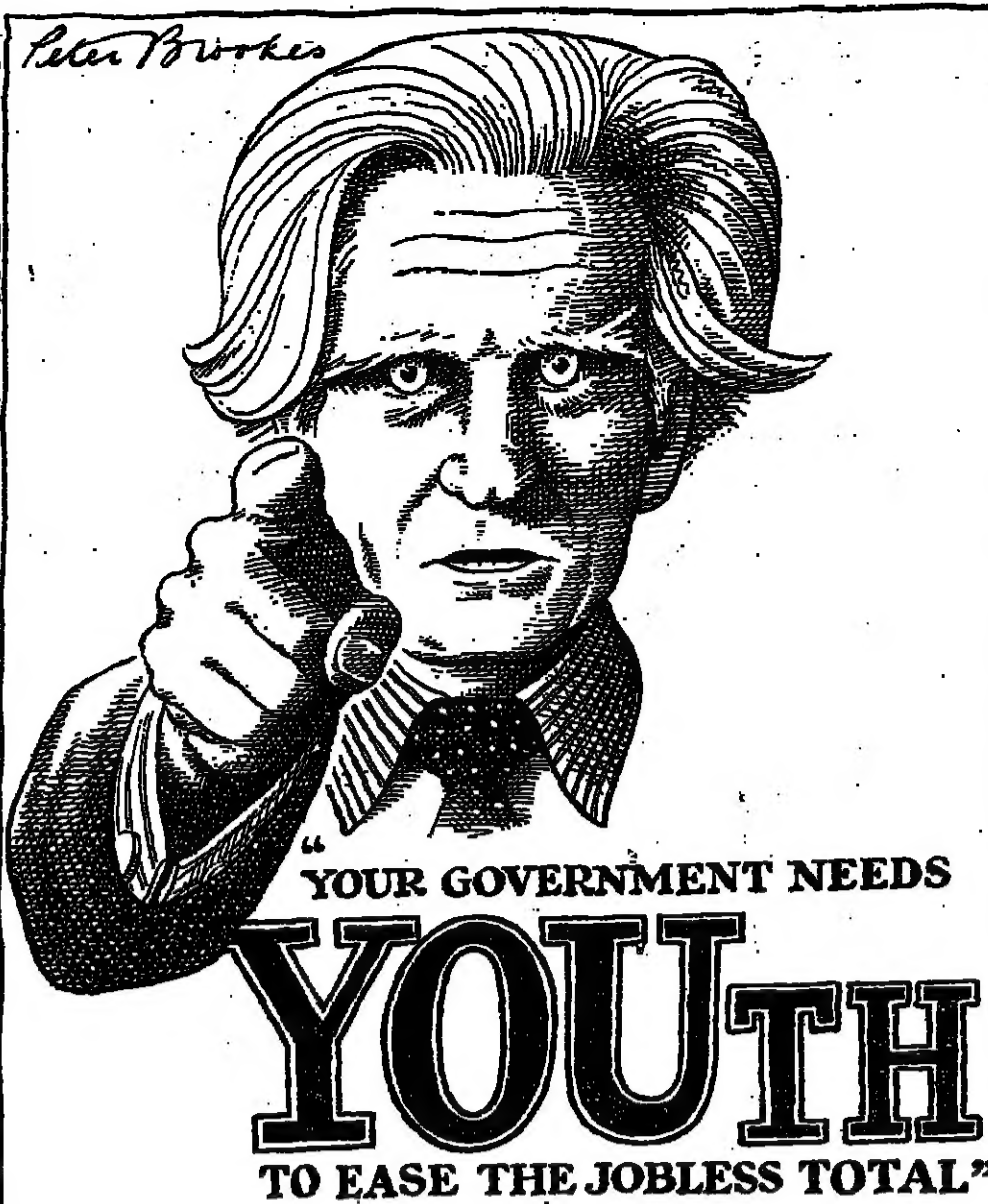
The ninth and last round of the Chertsey Jubilee International chess tournament in London started at midday yesterday, an hour earlier than usual. After five hours play the lead was held by two British international masters, Mark Hebden and Jim Plaskett, with 6½ points, followed by the Hungarian grandmaster, J. Flesch, and the Frenchman E. Prié, with six points each.

Next came Richardson with 5½ points and one game still in progress, followed by Arkell, Harroch, Hawksworth, and Trepper 5½, Conquest, Douven and McKay 5 and one game in progress; Condie, Crouch, Manouk and Stebbings 5.

Hebden and Plaskett are certain to share first place and of the rest only Richardson can tie with those two, but his position is so inferior that he is unlikely to do so.

The Lloyds Bank Jersey international chess congress, which ended yesterday after nine rounds on the Swiss system, was an interesting event in which the 55 contestants included a number of leading young British players.

It was therefore fitting that first prize should be won by the well known junior player, Julian Hodgson, who is a FIDE master and recently qualified for the International master title. He scored 8 points. Second was another junior player, Daniel King, with 7½ points.



Court may decide Roach inquest venue

By Nicholas Timmins

The Greater London Council is considering legal action to force the inquest into the death of Colin Roach to be held in Hackney Town Hall rather than in St Pancras Coroner's Court.

The council has written to the coroner, Dr Douglas Chambers, asking him to move the inquest, due to open on Monday. If he does not do so, the council says it will sue.

The GLC has taken counsel's opinion to the effect that it has the power under the London Government Act to provide proper accommodation for the inquest, and argues that St Pancras Coroner's Court is too small and much public interest.

Mr Roach, aged 21, died from shotgun wounds in the entrance to Stoke Newington police station in January, and there have been five demonstrations in connection with his death.

The coroner has rejected a request to move the inquest from the court, which can seat about forty people.

Vulnerability of the marginals

By Our Political Editor

As the life of the present Parliament appears to ebb, politicians and students of politics are trying to familiarize themselves with the shape of the next House of Commons while trying also to guess its political colour.

Learning the names of the new constituencies where the next election will be lost and won - names such as Langbaurgh, Elmest and Ynys Mon - means trouble enough for some. For would-be parliamentary candidates, as the safer seats are snapped up by accelerated selection conferences, the quest for a seat where this or that party has even a

Gang hiding on train ransacks mailbags

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Sixty bags of first-class and registered mail worth thousands of pounds were ransacked yesterday by a gang who hid on an overnight mail train between London and Manchester.

The robbers are thought to have jumped from the train as it approached Crewe and may have escaped in a waiting car.

The Post Office said the full loss would not be known for some time, but police believed the gang fled prematurely, taking very little.

British Transport Police and Post Office investigators immediately began an inquiry into how the gang slipped past the train's security guard.

The robbery took place on the night service to Manchester which left Euston at 11.20pm on Thursday. When the train pulled in at its first stop at Crewe at 1.30am, Post Office staff who opened one of three mail carriages found that sacks had been opened.

The robbers had removed bags on a window and climbed into the locked carriage. They had left behind five nylon rucksacks stuffed with mail. A police dog brought in to search the area round Crewe station picked up a trail which led to the station's car park but then petered out.

There were several hundred mail bags in the carriage. British Rail said the train was loaded in an area not accessible to the public and loading of mail was always monitored by Post Office staff, who sealed the carriage.

The train had a dozen carriages stripped out to carry mail bags, newspapers and British Rail's parcel service. It had come from a Willesden depot, where it was kept between journeys.

The Post Office said there was no evidence that the bags contained anything of exceptional value. The maximum compensation for items in the registered mail is £1,750.

Science report Ice throws light on the Earth's structure

By the Staff of Nature

The remarkable notion that the steady drift of the North Pole towards eastern Canada is a consequence of the melting of glacial ice within the past 100,000 years has been put forward by W. R. Peltier and Patrick Wu, two scientists from the University of Toronto.

Its curiosity value apart, the proposal, if accepted, could throw important light on the structure of the Earth as a whole and, in particular, on the thickness of the crustal rocks lying beneath the continents.

The steady drift of the position of the North Pole amounts to about 5m a year in the general direction of the embouchure of Hudson's Bay into the Arctic Ocean. The motion is so slow that it can be distinguished from the much more prominent oscillation of the apparent pole's position called the Chandler Wobble only in records covering several decades.

Peltier and Wu have used data compiled by the International Latitude Service going back to 1900.

In addition to all such discussions is the assumption that the geographical position of the North Pole is the point at which the axis of the Earth's rotation intersects the surface, so that movement of the North Pole towards Hudson's Bay will be mirrored by movement of the South Pole towards mid-Pacific latitudes.

Ice ages enter the argument because the accumulation of ice in a substantial icecap, extending as it must the transfer of oceanic water to land-based ice, must alter the rotational characteristics of the Earth. Although the Antarctic and Greenland icecaps are now the largest, neither is as large as the great North American icecap at the peak of the last glaciation, called the Laurentide.

If the Earth were a rigid body, such an asymmetric mass would merely have caused a more pronounced wobble in its rotation. Because, however, the more or less rigid skin (floating on a more malleable but still viscous interior) can change position with respect to the axis of rotation, it is natural that the position of the North Pole should have moved away during the accumulation of the Laurentide icecap, and that it should now be moving back.

But how fast? Peltier and Wu say probably on safe ground when they say that past glaciations have shifted the axis of rotation of the Earth's skin with respect to the underlying much more fluid matter, the Earth's mantle, from which new sea-floor is extruded.

Their more difficult problem is that of calculating the thickness of the Earth's skin, represented principally by the thickness of the continental plates of the crust, from the measured speed of the movement of the poles.

Their conclusion that the average thickness of the outer, relatively rigid, skin is greater than 250km is not readily won by the hearts and minds of geophysicists, most of whom adhere to the view that the ocean floor is about 6km thick and that the less dense material of which continents are made is rarely more than 40km thick.

The snag is that a less thick outer skin implies a less rapid movement of the North Pole than has been observed.

Even so, the research now carried out is an important demonstration that a connection can be established between the observed features of the Earth's rotation and its internal structure.

Source: *Geophysical Research Letters* March (vol 10, p 181), 1983.

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Kidnap girl freed after £10,000 is paid

A businessman's daughter who was kidnapped in the Irish Republic was released yesterday after her father paid a £10,000 ransom. She was being held by two armed kidnappers who wore paramilitary-style clothes and balaclava helmets.

The incident began when the two men called at the home in Shankill, Dublin, of Mr Peter Sims, a steel firm executive, late on Thursday night.

They held the family captive at gunpoint overnight before taking his daughter, Karen, aged 23, from her house and ordering her father to obtain the ransom for payment at a nominated spot. The gunman ordered Mr Sims not to contact police until after the ransom had been paid.

Conservative marginals vulnerable to Labour		Order Constituency		Liberal marginals vulnerable to Labour		Order Constituency	
Order Constituency	MP	MP	MP	Order Constituency	MP	MP	MP
1 Birmingham North	137	78	11.8	1	1	1	1
2 Birmingham South	137	78	11.8	2	2	2	2
3 Birmingham Central	137	78	11.8	3	3	3	3
4 Birmingham East	137	78	11.8	4	4	4	4
5 Birmingham West	137	78	11.8	5	5	5	5
6 Birmingham South East	137	78	11.8	6	6	6	6
7 Birmingham North East	137	78	11.8	7	7	7	7
8 Birmingham Central East	137	78	11.8	8	8	8	8
9 Birmingham Central West	137	78	11.8	9	9	9	9
10 Birmingham Central South	137	78	11.8	10	10	10	10
11 Birmingham Central North	137	78	11.8	11	11	11	11
12 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	12	12	12	12
13 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	13	13	13	13
14 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	14	14	14	14
15 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	15	15	15	15
16 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	16	16	16	16
17 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	17	17	17	17
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24 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	24	24	24	24
25 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	25	25	25	25
26 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	26	26	26	26
27 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	27	27	27	27
28 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	28	28	28	28
29 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	29	29	29	29
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31 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	31	31	31	31
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73 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	73	73	73	73
74 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	74	74	74	74
75 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	75	75	75	75
76 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	76	76	76	76
77 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	77	77	77	77
78 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	78	78	78	78
79 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	79	79	79	79
80 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	80	80	80	80
81 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	81	81	81	81
82 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	82	82	82	82
83 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	83	83	83	83
84 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	84	84	84	84
85 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	85	85	85	85
86 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	86	86	86	86
87 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	87	87	87	87
88 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	88	88	88	88
89 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	89	89	89	89
90 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	90	90	90	90
91 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	91	91	91	91
92 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	92	92	92	92
93 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	93	93	93	93
94 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	94	94	94	94
95 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	95	95	95	95
96 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	96	96	96	96
97 Birmingham Central South West	137	78	11.8	97	97	97	97
98 Birmingham Central North East	137	78	11.8	98	98	98	98
99 Birmingham Central North West	137	78	11.8	99	99	99	99
100 Birmingham Central South East	137	78	11.8	100	100	100	100

Rejected candidate seeks new berth

By Richard Evans

The Conservative dropped as a prospective parliamentary candidate because his wife is a member of the League Against Cruel Sports said last night that he still hoped to contest the next election.

Mr Hugh Simmonds, who was originally chosen to contest the safe Tory seat of South-West Cambridgeshire, said that leading party figures had indicated that the controversy surrounding his selection and rejection would not hinder his chances of being chosen elsewhere.

"The reaction I have had from people in the party generally is that they regard this as a unique situation that in no way stands to my discredit. I am still hopeful of standing at the next election as a Conservative candidate."

Only a handful of Conservative constituency associations have still to pick a candidate, although a few MPs are expected to announce their retirement at the last minute, and so create more vacancies.

Mr Simmonds, whose selection was blocked a week ago after his wife's opposition to blood sports became known, had his resignation accepted by the local party on Thursday.

"I have had private communications from a number of leading party figures within the last 24 hours, which I regard as confidential. No one has made any communication to me about having any difficulty of

getting

Radiation claim by widow

The Ministry of Defence is facing a possible damages action by a serviceman's widow who claims her husband died of radiation exposure while serving on Christmas Island, in the Indian Ocean, at the time of the British atom bomb tests in the 1950s.

The widow, now aged 63, of Wellington, Shropshire, has been given legal aid for the first stages of her case in the High Court. Her husband, aged 60, who was in the RAF, died of lung cancer in 1974.

GLC Tories are cleared

Conservative members of the Greater London Council who have been the subject of police inquiries into the conduct of Strongbridge Housing Association and planning applications have been completely cleared of criminal offences.

The police report has been backed by the Hillingdon District auditor, who says that little, if any, of the arrears on a Hillingdon Council loan to the association, will be irrecoverable. A separate investigation by Mr Dennis Hanson, a former deputy local government ombudsman, found no evidence of GLC members being unduly involved in consideration of planning applications or failing to follow council officers' advice.

Guard remanded on raid charge

A Security Express guard was remanded in custody until next Tuesday by Old Street magistrates, in London, yesterday, accused of trying to rob his employers of more than £2m.

Alan Roosan, aged 29, of Ashmore Grove, Wellesbourne, London, was charged with the attempted robbery of £2,241,965 from the firm's offices in Christopher Street, Islington, in March and with armed robbery of £133,238 from a Security Express truck in Tottenham High Road last November.

New shadow spokesman

Mr Denzil Davies, Labour MP for Llanelli, was appointed shadow Secretary of State for Wales yesterday. He succeeds the late Mr Alec Jones and transfers from the number two position in the Opposition defence and disarmament team. Mr Jones, who was MP for Rhondda, died last month.

Mr Davies, aged 44, was Minister of State at the Treasury in the former Labour government.

Bristol charges

Derek Anthony Rossi, aged 27, of no fixed address, was charged in Bristol Magistrates' Court yesterday with the attempted murder of a detective constable and of with another person robbing a bank. Rossi, of £35.108 on April 6, was remanded in custody until next Friday. Another man has also been charged with robbing the bank.

Many victims of crime will lose right to compensation

From Peter Evans, Keele University

About half the victims of violent crimes will be excluded from the Government's criminal injuries compensation scheme because of changes in its operation, according to a working party of the National Association of Victims Support Schemes.

The reason is the raising of the lower limit for claims from £250 to £400 from March 1. "We are extremely concerned," Professor Dominic Lasok, QC, of the Faculty of Law, Keele University, says in the working party's report. In addition, many eligible applicants may be deterred from applying by underestimating the value of their "pain and suffering".

The report, presented yesterday to the annual conference of the association at Keele University, Staffordshire, says that compensation orders are still made by courts only in a small proportion of relevant cases.

Research suggests that most victims are not aware of the possibility of compensation from either the board or the

courts and therefore do not expect it. The working party wants more information about compensation to be provided.

The report also finds that considerable hardship is caused by the delay in obtaining final awards. It adds that immediate aid should be available when needed for the payment of expenses incurred and wages lost as a result of the offence.

Some members of the working party found that people in high crime areas often have difficulty in obtaining and paying for suitable household insurance. "As a general principle, we believe that compensation should be available to all victims who have suffered losses as a result of crime."

One option would be state insurance schemes. Alternatively, local authorities, housing associations and other landlords could be encouraged to arrange block policies, which would be available to their tenants on a voluntary basis. Premiums could be collected regularly with the rent or the rates.

Press seeks protection for unpublished material

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Morgan, director of the Press Council, yesterday welcomed the Government's climbdown over proposed search powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

But he said there was still concern in the media over the possible seizure of journalists' unpublished notes, pictures and film.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, announced on Thursday that in the light of widespread protests from doctors, church leaders and other bodies, he had decided to exempt from the search provisions confidential personal records held by the medical and other caring professions and their voluntary counterparts.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, disclosed yesterday that there had been 598 representations on the Bill from organizations and individuals.

He is to meet representatives of newspaper proprietors, journalists and the Press Council on Monday to discuss changes the Home Secretary plans in order to allay the media's fears.

Under the bill a magistrate may issue a warrant authorizing police to enter and search for evidence where satisfied that there is reasonable ground for believing a serious arrestable offence has been committed; that there is evidence on the premises that might be produced in a trial for that offence; and when it is not practicable to communicate with the owner.

With evidence held on a confidential basis, the police must seek an order from a circuit judge for the production of the evidence and the holder of the information may challenge the application.

Mr Morgan said at Sutton, Surrey, yesterday that press concern had not been limited to disclosure of journalists' confidential sources. "We are concerned, too, at the danger

that reporters' general notes, unprinted copy, unpublished pictures, unshown film and unrecorded tape may be seized by the police."

If Mr Mayhew did not offer much stronger safeguards than now in the Bill, reporters and cameramen would be gravely restricted in their freedom to perform their jobs, he said.

Mrs Margaret Mair, head of the parliamentary and legal department of the Newspaper Society, which represents regional newspaper publishers, said the society was just as concerned about police powers to obtain evidence held non-confidentially.

"We make no distinction between confidential and non-confidential material; in the case of journalists, most material is held on a non-confidential basis."

She said the society wanted the same safeguards for non-confidential evidence as now applied to searches for confidential material. A police officer searching for the one was just as likely to come across the other and would be entitled under the Bill to take it.

Opponents of the Bill who made representations to the Home Office included the full range of medical institutions, from the General Medical Council to the British Medical Association and the various royal colleges, media unions, local authorities and Amnesty International to the Samaritans (the Press Association reports).

Legal objections were voiced by the Law Society and professional objections to the search and seizure plans came from the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies. Religious bodies opposed to the proposals included the Churches' Main Committee and the Board of the Division of Ministries in the Methodist Church. The list was disclosed by Mr Mayhew in a Commons written reply yesterday.



Mr Arthur Forder, the mayor of Devizes, Wiltshire, inspecting a farewell guard of honour yesterday with Major-General N. H. Speller (behind the mayor) by 125 men of 9 Ordnance Battalion. The battalion, which has been garrisoned for more than a century in the town, transfers to Corskhan, Wiltshire, in June. (Photograph: Peter Trivelpy)

Fears for public footpaths

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Miles of public footpaths will be closed unless the Government makes the Forestry Commission change its policy of "privatizing" nationalized woodlands. Local protests

about the sale of more than 1,800 acres of woodland near Salisbury to a private buyer have led Mr Neil MacFarlane, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, to ask the commission for details of the proposed deal.

The national council of the Ramblers' Association will today debate plans to keep paths open when woods are sold. The commission is trying to raise £40m by selling parts of its vast estate of state-owned land, worth more than £300m.

The Government regards the scheme as a way of unlocking public funds held in the form of land and timber. The Opposition sees it as a means of selling desirable assets to private buyers who qualify for valuable tax concessions.

Most of the land sold last year consisted of dense conifer plantations with little importance for wildlife and recreation. This year the commission has begun to sell mixed woodlands which receive many visitors.

The commission's policy is to allow public access to its woods but never to require private buyers to continue to keep the paths open.

A spokesman at the commission's headquarters in Edinburgh said yesterday that it did not disclose prices and buyers of its woodlands. But it was about to offer for sale three sections of Bentley Wood, to the east of Salisbury, with an area of more than 1,800 acres.

The commission has sold to private buyers more than 150 acres of woodland at Brooke, near Norwich, and almost 120 acres at Walton Wood, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire. More than 300 acres at Stapleford Wood, near Newark, Nottinghamshire, is about to be put on the market.

Forest of figures, page 6

Bishops back right of asylum

By Robert Newell

The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales urged the British Government yesterday to continue to grant political asylum to conscientious objectors from South Africa.

At their Low Week meeting at Westminster the bishops gave support to their South African colleagues' plea for the right of conscientious objection to military service.

Their appeal to the British Government reflected the fear that under proposed legislation many South Africans may seek asylum in Britain as an alternative to heavy jail sentences or long periods of military service for refusing military service on conscientious grounds. The English and Welsh bishops promised their pastoral support to any young South African seeking asylum for those reasons.

A joint statement on the bishops' proposed conference of church leaders is expected early in May. This will discuss the next step forward on the ecumenical front as well as Roman Catholic reservations about membership of the

British Council of Churches, and how they may be overcome.

Cardinal Basil Hume, the Archbishop of Westminster, and the Archbishop of Liverpool, president and the Most Rev Derek Worlock, president and vice-president of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference, explained yesterday that most of the four-day meeting had been taken up with considering new proposals for the reorganization of the conference and its commission.

A special one-day meeting of the conference on July 7 will consider the agenda of the Synod of Bishops to be held in Rome this autumn, which will discuss reconciliation and penance, including the controversial issue of general absolution without prior individual confession.

The new reorganization proposals, which were accepted in Rome, no longer call for the old structure of commissions to be completely swept away. Instead they will be slimmed down to committees of experts, each presided over by a bishop

but with an otherwise non-episcopal membership.

Several new committees will be added to cover such fields as family life, relations with non-Christian religions, home mission, public life, and the world of work.

The committees will be grouped into six departments, some closely mirroring their counterparts in other churches. There will therefore be a department for mission and unity and one for social responsibility, with areas of concern roughly similar to the Church of England's boards of the same name.

In that way the Roman Catholic church will still have expert committees covering such fields as ecumenism or international justice and peace. However, their membership will no longer be swollen, as with the old commissions, by the need to provide for a representative element.

The bishops also "positively endorse" the idea of occasional consultations of the whole body of English and Welsh Roman Catholics.

Drugs 'supergrass' flown to US by RAF

A former millionaire and international drug smuggler was flown out of Britain yesterday on an RAF jet normally reserved for important military officers.

William Mitchell, aged 31, one of the ring-leaders of a cocaine smuggling syndicate, was taken under guard to Brize Norton air base, in Oxfordshire, and boarded a VC 10 for Washington with a military escort.

The authorities took the unprecedented step of asking for a military flight because of fears that Mitchell was to be the target of killers.

Mitchell, from Illinois, had pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court recently to plotting to smuggle cocaine from South America and bringing in a suitcase contain-

Penlee rescue attempt 'was not wrong'

From Our Correspondent, Penzance

A suggestion that the final attempt by Trevlyn Richards, the coxswain of the Penlee lifeboat, to rescue people from the Union Star may be said, with hindsight, to have been wrong, drew a swift response yesterday from Mr Geoffrey Brice, QC, for the Royal Maritime Lifeboat Institution.

Mr Brice, speaking on the twenty-first day of the Penlee inquiry, Penzance, asked Captain James De Coverley, a senior nautical surveyor with the Department of Trade, who made the remark the previous day, if he knew a single person who considered that Coxswain Richards might have been wrong.

Mr Ian Mayes, defending Mitchell said he would remain "at considerable personal risk" because of the massive "help" he had given about drug smuggling.

Mr Brice said that Captain De Coverley's evidence had been widely reported, and had caused intense anguish and hurt.

"I am extremely sorry if anything I have said has caused anguish to anybody," Captain De Coverley said.

Mr Brice turned to Captain De Coverley's theory that the coxswain had capsized on the

lifeboat and that the final blow to the Solomon Browne had been struck by one of the ship's heavy hatch covers. Counsel pointed out that witnesses had reported that the lifeboat might have got away from the coxswain. Captain De Coverley said he had heard that, but it was not conclusive.

Mr Brice suggested that after making her final rescue run the lifeboat had got away from the coxswain, only to be dashed against the rocks. Captain De Coverley said that was a possibility. But it had occurred to him that the Union Star might have capsized on the Solomon Browne, with a hatch cover striking the lifeboats.

Captain De Coverley suggested that some part of the boat, without life on board, might have drifted away with the engine still turning and the lights still showing. That would explain why the wreckage of the lifeboat was so widely scattered, and explain the sighting of lights.

Mr George Beattie for the Coastguard, said that some harsh things had been said about the coastguards during the hearing. He asked Captain De Coverley, "In your considered opinion, as a master mariner, do you think these are justified?" "No," the captain replied.

The inquiry continues on Monday.

Bogus Sloane Ranger lived like a lord on Barclaycard

A penniless man posed as a peer and bought his way into high society with his Barclaycard, a court was told yesterday. He convinced titled young Englishmen that he was a member of the aristocracy and played his role so well that the society magazine, *Harper's and Queen*, used a picture of his twenty-first birthday party.

But yesterday Duncan Roy, a Londoner, aged 22, was jailed for 15 months for obtaining property and services by deception. Judge Bingham told him at Knightsbridge Crown Court, London: "You have lived a Walter Mitty existence for a few years. You have lived like a lord, mostly at other people's expense."

Mr Dermot Wright, for the prosecution, said Roy ran up huge bills entertaining his rich friends and when he was arrested owed Barclaycard nearly £10,000.

Mr Edward Lewis, for the defence, said "He resorted to living like a lord but he closed his eyes and shut his mind to the horror of having to pay for it. He desperately wanted to be a somebody, especially a member of the aristocracy."

Mr Scott Croll, who was pictured with Roy in *Harper's and Queen*, said after the case: "He said he was the bastard son of Lady Rendlesham. He was very persuasive, a real charmer and totally believable."

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Tory seeks aid for dependencies

Sir Richard Attenborough's Oscar-winning film *Gandhi* gave a misleading impression of the quality of the Indian service during the period of British rule in India and it was very sad that a British director should have given such a false and discreditable picture of his fellow countrymen, Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Orpington, C) said when opening a debate in the Commons on dependencies of the United Kingdom.

The colonial service, he said, had never been given the credit it was due, in making a peaceful transition from Empire to self-governing Commonwealth and in providing millions of people in overseas territories with standards of skill and integrity of government rarely missed in most of Britain's former colonies nowadays.

It was a great pity that Sir Richard Attenborough's much praised film gave a misleading impression of the quality of the Indian service.

Members of the Indian civil service were of great intelligence, sound judgment, and were devoted to India. They left India with regret, and they left the government of India in a better state than they found it.

There was no case for direct representation of British citizens resident outside the United Kingdom in the Commons, but in my opinion the House of Lords provision ought to be made for British citizens resident outside the United Kingdom, including those in the EEC, dependent territories and the EEC.

territories which did not desire or were precluded from seeking independence on their own account.

Britain should not stand in the way of independence for Gibraltar if the British Government was to be fair to the people of Gibraltar.

Spain's childish tantrums only made them look ridiculous in the eyes of the world.

Mr Tom Doherty (West Lothian, Lab) said units associated with the Falklands task force were not welcome in the Hispanic world. The Spanish Government had expressed profound displeasure and concern over what they called the inappropriate visit to Gibraltar. Pre-Falklands they did not speak like that.

It would be unwise for the House and country to imagine that all this was Spanish bravado. What precisely did Britain do if Spain applied considerable pressure and Spanish ships patrolled the Straits? Was it proposed that in certain circumstances Britain would dispatch the battle fleet against the Spanish Government?

This country had better start talking to the Spaniards seriously and soon and sincerely. Bad relations with the first democratic government in Spain since Franco were not in British interests nor in the interests of the people of Gibraltar.

The published diary of an Argentine soldier contained allegations against the conduct of the Falklands campaign. The soldiers were British mercenaries the Government should respond to the allegations.

Mr Bernard Braine (South-East Essex, C) said that when the full story of the Falklands tragedy came to be told it would be seen that signal after signal was sent by Whitehall to Buenos Aires indicating that Britain did not really care.

It was only fair to say that the Argentine authorities over the years were misled.

Britain should not have encouraged Argentina to believe there would ever be any transfer of sovereignty unless the Falkland Islanders wanted it.

Until there was a purge in Argentina and genuine democracy and respect for basic human rights restored, there should be no question of resuming bilateral negotiations.

Mr Clinton Davis, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, (Hackney, Central, Lab) said the present Falklands policy was hopelessly inadequate and was being exposed daily as such. Britain should be looking for alternatives and the possibility of a United Nations trusteeship must be considered.

The Government should do nothing to endanger the fledgling democracy in Spain and must avoid provocative actions which could play some part in undermining it. It was not essential to send HMS Invincible to Gibraltar. It was bound to be seen by Spain as deeply offensive. It was not sensible to say that under no circumstances would sovereignty of Gibraltar be yielded. Sending Invincible was somewhat insane.

Mr Cranley Owsley, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said the people of Gibraltar clearly wished to retain their links with Britain. It was quite normal for ships taking part in an exercise such as the current one to visit Gibraltar.

Boxed wine still largely 'foul' Which? says

Most boxed wine is still "unspeakably foul", according to the Consumers' Association's panel of wine experts, although two new arrivals have met with their approval.

Miss Jane MacQuitty, the editor of *Which? Wine Monthly*, who last year described almost all wine boxes as "mostly undrinkable", caused a great deal of controversy at the time.

She said yesterday: "We said then that there really seems no point in packing the cheapest, dullest wines into these boxes simply to appear competitive. The situation does not seem to have changed much since then. We recently tasted at least 30 bag-in-the-box wines and most were unspeakably foul".

But the panel has welcomed two new boxes which contain premium wines. They cost about £10 each and are offered by the Wine Society. Both the red and white are *Bordeaux Appellation Contrôlée* wines and "will probably stand the test of time", according to Miss MacQuitty.

She added that claims of a four-month shelf life made for many of the other boxes were "far fetched, to say the least".

Wine boxes are still the fastest growing sector of the UK wine market and account for almost 15 per cent of light wine sold. The trade expects the figure to reach 20 per cent by the end of the year.

Fireworks toll

People requiring hospital treatment for fireworks injuries last year totalled 626, the second lowest figure recorded and 55 fewer than in 1981, Dr Gerard Vaughan, the Minister for Consumer Affairs, stated in a Commons written reply.



Clark Hamford, a sculptor, with models of Marilyn Monroe and Fred Astaire which he makes for sale. The model most in demand is of Miss Monroe in the scene from *Some Like It Hot*, where she stands over a hot air grill, in a flimsy white dress. He makes limited editions of the 33 in

sculpture with a number on each base.

Mr Clark, aged 27, of Kensington Park Road, North Kensington, London, also makes models of Marlene Dietrich. "There is something about her that is timeless, he says. (Photograph: Michael Alsford)

David Sheppard flies out; Perón ban lifted

Fate of Galtieri hangs in balance

From Andrew Thompson, Buenos Aires

The fate of General Galtieri, former President of Argentina, and an internal trial in the city, continue to dominate the military debate on responsibility for errors during the 1982 Atlantic conflict last year. General Galtieri is fulfilling a period of disciplinary arrest, imposed by General Cristino Nicolaides, the Army Commander. He is at Campo de Mayo, the main army garrison in the Buenos Aires area, although no official information has been released. Army sources say he has been put in a house normally used by the commander of a company of engineers.

The sources said that the sentence imposed was 45 days' imprisonment, not 60 as was initially reported. The sentence was imposed as a result of published interview in which he attacked General Mario Menéndez, the man he appointed Governor of the Malvinas (Falkland Islands) last year, and three senior active service generals.

General Nicolaides has yet to take a final decision on whether to order trial by "honour tribunal" for the former president, a move requested by the criticized officers. Such a tribunal could order additional sanctions.

Sources close to the general have said that if the trial goes ahead, his defence will be taken up by General Alfredo St. Jean. Like General Galtieri, General St. Jean is a retired officer. He is a law graduate and was General Galtieri's Interior Minister.

Various members of General Galtieri's family also added that a number of other retired officers were ready to testify in his favour. The honour tribunal, under the terms of the military code, must be presided over by an officer of the same rank as himself (lieutenant-general) and of greater seniority. This reduces the field to nine officers, all former commanders-in-chief, who held that position before General Galtieri did. One of them is General Benjamin Rattenbach, aged 85 who presides over the inter-forces commission investigating the conduct of the conflict with Britain.

● **Ban lifted:** Argentina has lifted the political ban imposed seven years ago on former President María Estela Martínez de Perón, Reuter reports. It said after an eight-hour meeting that it was restoring the political rights of Señora Perón, who was ousted in a coup in March, 1976, and of 18 trade unionists and officials of her elected Government.

Señor Decolindo Bittel, the Peronist party first vice-president, said she might now play an active role in the party's preparations for elections called October 30, but he noted that Señora Perón, now in exile in Spain, was still barred from holding public office because she was convicted after her overthrow of Embezzling state funds.

● **LONDON:** The Bishop of Liverpool, Right Rev David Sheppard, left London on his way to Buenos Aires, the first British church leader to visit Argentina since the Falklands conflict.

He left Heathrow to represent the Archbishop of Canterbury at the inauguration of a new province of the Anglican communion. He will arrive in Argentina next Thursday. The new province of the Southern Cone includes the diocese of Argentina, Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay and Dr Sheppard said it was traditional for the archbishop or his representative to attend the inauguration of a new province. The visit was due to take place a year ago but was postponed because of the Falklands.



Mission of peace: Dr David Sheppard and his wife, Grace, leaving London yesterday for New York, where she is to stay.

Britons die as plane hits mast

Paris - Three Britons were killed and another critically injured when their aircraft crashed in thick fog yesterday near Boulogne (Diana Geddes writes).

How satellite was damaged

New York (NYT) - The \$100m (£67m) communications satellite deployed by the space shuttle Challenger appears to have been damaged by the rocket module that boosted it into a higher, abnormal orbit, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said.

Italy angry at Sofia jailings

Rome (AP) - Italian officials have condemned what they called the severity of sentences on two Italians convicted by Bulgaria of spying.

All smiles - by police request

Hongkong - Broadly-smiling portraits may be compulsory on the new issue of identity cards for Hongkong residents, Richard Hughes writes.

Journalist's wife in court

Johannesburg - Mrs Sue Sparks, wife of Mr Allan Sparks, the former editor of the Rand Daily Mail and a South African journalist, Mr Bernard Simon, appeared briefly before a regional magistrate here. The case was postponed until May 6, Michael Horvath writes.

Policeman kills 21 at funeral

Kampala (Reuters) - A Ugandan Special Forces policeman went berserk and shot dead 16 people at the funeral of a colleague last week before committing suicide, police disclosed yesterday.

Pinochet gibe

President Augusto Pinochet of Chile has accused the country's politicians of lacking morals. The remarks were apparently directed at a mid-party grouping which demand an end to military rule.

Rumasa charge

Madrid - The founder of the recently nationalized Rumasa holding company, Señor José María Ruiz-Matós, has been formally charged with fraud, misappropriation of funds, falsification of documents and illegal export of currency. Spain is said to be considering seeking his extradition from Britain.

Five to hang

Nyeri, Kenya (AFP) - A businessman who hired four assassins to kill a political opponent has been condemned to the gallows with them.

Up and away

New York (AP) - A giant King Kong balloon, finally inflated on top of the Empire State building after six days of bad luck and bad weather, sprang a leak soon afterwards and deflated.

Rival still a challenge to Andropov

From Richard Owen, Moscow

There are signs that Mr. Konstantin Chernenko, who was defeated in the struggle for party leadership nearly 18 months ago, still poses a challenge to Mr. Yuri Andropov and wields influence within the party structure.

Mr. Andropov, who succeeded Mr. Brezhnev as party leader last November, appears firmly in control of Soviet domestic and foreign policies. As in previous Soviet succession crises, on the other hand, the new leader has found himself restricted by having to placate other powerful figures and interest groups.

Mr. Andropov has made only limited personnel changes in party and government so far, but more are expected at the next Central Committee meeting and at the session of the Supreme Soviet due to take place in June.

Mr. Chernenko, who is 71, was eclipsed politically after last November's succession struggle, when he not only lost to Mr. Andropov but was obliged to nominate his rival for the post of party First Secretary.

Stocky and animated, with a shock of white hair, he once appeared a more confident contender than the lean and stooped Mr. Andropov, but had only the personal blessing of his mentor, to match against Mr. Andropov's power base in the KGB security police and the army.

On the other hand, Mr. Chernenko remains head of the party's General Department, which gives him control over patronage and party appointments.

Party administration is regarded as humdrum, but can be skillfully used to gain a broadened power base. Sources say Mr. Chernenko has used it to benefit from the grievances of those party apparatchiks who resent Mr. Andropov's attempts to expel the incompetent and corrupt.

The recently-published memoirs of Brezhnev contain, significantly, extravagant praise for Mr. Chernenko. Although published long after Mr. Andropov's rise to power, the memoirs describe Mr. Chernenko as a leader of great "talent and experience".

Sources say tension within the leadership continues, however, and that one of the points at issue is the state presidency. Russia has had no head of state since Brezhnev died. Mr. Chernenko was reportedly offered the post, but on condition that he relinquished his job as Central Committee secretary, which he declined to do.

Nablu settlement date splits Israel

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Next Monday's celebrations to mark the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence promises to be some of the most controversial in the country's history after a move by the Government to use the occasion to inaugurate a new Jewish settlement near Nablu, the most densely populated Arab town in the occupied West Bank.

Yesterday, the two leading members of the main opposition Labour Party, Mr. Shimon Peres and Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, staged a rare joint press conference to denounce the dedication ceremony. The party has also called for a special session of the Israeli Parliament to debate the plan to use Independence Day for such a widely-contested move.

Mr. Rabin, a former Labour Prime Minister, appealed to Mr. Menachem Begin, the present Prime Minister, to cancel the ceremony on a hillside overlooking Nablu, because settlement in heavily populated Arab areas was a subject on which "the entire nation is divided".

He described the move as "an historical mistake" which would signal the start of Jewish settlements in areas of large Palestinian population. By last night there was no indication that the right-wing Likud Government had any intention of reversing its decision to stage a special ceremony to mark the move of the first 15 Jewish families into the new settlement, which is eventually planned to be transferred to the Jewish suburb of Upper Nablu, intended to house several hundred.

Nablu has a Palestinian population of about 80,000 and has been the scene of frequent violent clashes between Arabs and Jews.



South Sea cyclone: A village of Taamotu in French Polynesia after being ravaged early this week. Tahiti and Moorea were also hit leaving 5,000 islanders homeless. France has sent emergency relief.

Pretoria is prepared for 'Gandhi' compromise

Johannesburg (Reuters) - A row over segregated audiences at South African showings of the award-winning film *Gandhi* intensified yesterday as a Government minister's pledge to open charity premieres to all races.

Drought-hit S Africa to buy fodder

Johannesburg (Reuters) South Africa's maize and stock farmers face a grim winter and financial ruin in the wake of the country's worst drought this century. According to an official of the country's agricultural union, grazing in most areas was insufficient for the coming winter and fodder is to be imported.

El Greco icon found on Greek island

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, announced yesterday the discovery of an unknown masterpiece by El Greco, in a church on Syros Island in the Aegean.

Morals debate shakes Canada

From John Best, Ottawa

A new year, the declaration, entitled *Ethical Reflections on the Economic Crisis*, repudiated government policies which, it claimed, put the interests of capital before the rights of labour. Current economic realities revealed a "deepening moral disorder in the values and priorities of society".

Lloyds Bank
Interest Rates

Lloyds Bank Plc has reduced its Base Rate from 10.5% to 10% p.a. with effect from Friday, 15th April 1983.

Other rates of interest are reduced as follows:
7-day-notice Deposit Accounts and Savings Bank Accounts - from 7.5% to 6.75% p.a.
The change in Base Rate and Deposit Account interest will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of

Lloyds Bank International Limited
The National Bank of New Zealand Limited

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Leadenhall Street, London EC3P 3BS

Wage freeze will hold

Triumphant Hawke wins union and employer mandate to boost taxes

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister who triumphed at the national economic conference which ended in Canberra on Thursday, said yesterday that he did not expect there would be any wage rises before September and little chance of tax cuts.

His new Labour Administration has won much more room in which to manoeuvre to reduce the budget deficit which is running at about \$A9,000m (about £5,300m) with the endorsement in the final communiqué, to raise taxes if necessary.

The communiqué said the summit recognized that any need for increased aggregate public spending might need to be met substantially from taxation. That might require increases in taxation or less than full indexation.

This mandate cancelled the Labour Party campaign promise in the March election to reduce taxes, and Mr Hawke said yesterday that the chances of granting tax cuts were very unlikely. "The possibility of general tax cuts is obviously, to put it at its lowest, very, very much less now in the light of all known facts."

The granting to the Government of the ability to increase taxes means that the Administration will be able to reduce the deficit without necessarily saving cutting welfare programmes which could be electoral suicide for a Labour government.

There was no reference in the communiqué about the end of the wage freeze introduced by the Fraser Government before Christmas and scheduled to last six months in Labour-controlled states and 12 months in those ruled by Liberal-National Party governments.

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

The employers throughout the summit had repeatedly asked that the wage freeze be extended to the end of the year. The timing for an end to the freeze now rests with the Arbitration Commission and yesterday Mr Hawke said he expected there would be a national wage hearing before the commission in the second half of this year.

The summit, which lasted four days, ended with the representatives of the union movement and the employers almost filling over to praise each other's moderation.

For the case with which the two sides managed to reach consensus was an indication of the depth of the economic problem facing Australia, and for once both sides realized that the summit provided a unique opportunity for compromise.

Although Mr Hawke only delivered the opening keynote address, and then chaired the daily sessions of the summit, his presence was felt behind the scenes, particularly in the

framing of the final communiqué.

The only dissenting voice was that of arch conservative, Mr Joh Bjelke-Petersen, the Queensland Premier, who said that Queensland would not put its name to the communiqué. "Queensland is not prepared to put its foot on the paper," he said.

Mr Hawke, closing the summit said: "The agreement we have reached contains a basic framework and approach to arrest the decline of the economy, to arrest the expansion of unemployment, and in an on-going sense to put us on the path of sustained non-inflationary growth."

Among the main points of the communiqué were that the summit: Agreed that unemployment and inflation should be tackled simultaneously; Supported a return to centralized wage fixing; Reaffirmed that the unions' commitment to the maintenance of real wages was an objective "over time"; Said that employers recognized that during the time of wage restraint dividend rises would also be restrained and would recommend this to their companies; Said that non-wage incomes should not move faster than wages.

Professional bodies should exercise restraint and, where no authorities existed, groups of professional people should agree voluntarily to have their fees fixed by the Arbitration Commission; Declared that to ensure projected high economic growth was fairly distributed required a community prepared to "place a priority on employment and a restraint on self-interest".



Mr Bjelke-Petersen: Only dissenting voice.

PLO stirs Warsaw ghetto row

From Roger Boyes

A new political squall has broken over the already sensitive Polish ceremonies marking next Tuesday's fortieth anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, an occasion that was supposed to ease the uncomfortable relationship between Jews and non-Jews and help Warsaw to put an end to its international isolation.

News that Mr Foad Yaseen, the Palestine Liberation Organization representative in Warsaw, planned to lay a wreath to the Jews slaughtered in the uprising prompted protests and dismay from the Israeli and American delegations.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the American Hebrew congregations, sent an angry telegram to the PLO organizers, who assured him that the PLO would not take part in the official ceremony.

Mr Yehuda Ben Meir, Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister, said the Israeli delegation - comprising some 300 Holocaust survivors - would boycott the event if the PLO were allowed to attend.

More than a thousand Jewish delegates are expected to attend the ceremonies, which are being staged with much pomp. But misgivings have also been voiced by Jewish groups arguing that Poland had a record of antisemitism.

Although papers presented yesterday at a scholarly conference on Nazi genocide attempted to show that Poles played important role in protecting Jews during the last war, many Jews still believe that the Poles should have done more, and are likely to mention the 1968 antisemitic campaign.

The second criticism comes from a former leader of the ghetto uprising, Dr Marek Edelman, who claims that the ceremony is an undignified attempt to legitimize the government.

Dr Edelman, who is boycotting the ceremony, said yesterday that he is being followed by police and that the authorities have barred him from Warsaw - he lives in Lodz - "for his own safety." A number of Polish Jews had hoped to stage an unofficial commemorative service tomorrow.

Security is extremely tight in Warsaw for fear that Arab groups will strike at such a large number of prominent Jews.

De Lorean defence claims a federal conspiracy

From Ivar Davis, Los Angeles

Mr John De Lorean's defence team has claimed that the Internal Revenue Service, creditors of the De Lorean Motor Company, and the US Justice Department "have improperly shared confidential information among themselves and the news media."

Calling for a special hearing to consider the allegations, the defence, in new documents disclosed earlier this week in a federal court, noted "the re-

A 'great moment' as Runcie meets Zhao

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, met briefly in Wellington yesterday. Among topics discussed was the cordial relationship between the Archbishop and the Church in China.

"This is a great moment for me," Dr Runcie said when the two met. Mr Zhao, who has been having talks with the Government on trade and international relations, said he looked forward to Dr Runcie's visit to China later this year.

Dr Runcie visited China briefly in January last year, but without meeting representatives of the Government. A delegation from the church in China subsequently visited London at the Archbishop's invitation. Dr Runcie is in New Zealand on a pastoral visit.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the

New Zealand Prime Minister, said after talks with Mr Zhao that the two countries were adopting an almost identical position on Cambodia.

China had made it clear that it supported Prince Sihanouk as the leader of the coalition government and not Mr Pol Pot.

Later, at a state luncheon in his honour, Mr Zhao said China would support whatever choice of government the Cambodian people made "in a genuinely free election under the supervision of the United Nations."

Mr Muldoon said the Chinese leader had expressed concern about the Soviet naval build-up in the Pacific and its use of Vietnamese facilities.

Mr Zhao, speaking to the press for the first time on his visit, launched an attack on superpower rivalry.



King Juan Carlos pays court to Dali

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister (left), greeting Queen Sofia in Madrid yesterday for the opening of what is thought to be the biggest exhibition of the works of Salvador Dali.

The opening was performed by King Juan Carlos (centre) who is being greeted by Señor Jordi Pujol, the President of the Catalan regional government, and Señora González. Dali himself was too ill to attend the ceremony at the Spanish Museum of

Contemporary Art, Harry Debelius writes. Instead the 79-year-old Catalan artist sent a message from the Puhol castle, where he has lived since the death last year of his wife Gala, asking Prince Felipe, the heir of the throne to represent him.

Contacted by telephone, the artist said: "This is one of the happiest days of my life. It is just as it might have been during the Renaissance with the show inaugurated by a king".

The exhibition contains not only paintings, but sculpture, jewelry and other creations. In addition, there is an accompanying exhibition of photographs by and of Dali and video displays of his work and his life.

The event heralds the expected donation by the painter to the state of all of the works still in his possession. Mr Robert Descharnes, Dali's secretary, said on Thursday he thought he would do so when journalists were given a preview of the collection.

60 held in Palermo to halt killings

Palermo (Reuters) - Police have arrested 60 people in Sicily in the past 24 hours in an attempt to stop a wave of Mafia killings and protect magistrates from threats to their lives.

In one operation, police said yesterday they sealed off several areas of Palermo and detained 15 men suspected of involvement in the murder of Antonio "Nino the Rich" Sorci, a Mafia boss, earlier this week. He was one of 12 men shot dead this week in Sicily.

The latest outbreak of gang war is thought by investigators to be linked to a feud over profits from recent huge heroin trafficking deals with organized crime families in the United States.

Italy's Supreme Council for the Magistracy is examining new ways of running Mafia trials to try to halt growing intimidation of magistrates and jurors. A six-member Supreme Council delegation is in Sicily to investigate the problem.

In the town of Carini, the local magistrate's robes were stolen and burnt before being dumped on his doorstep in a Mafia-style warning.

End Rock curbs, EEC insists

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Spain will not be allowed to join the EEC until it lifts its restrictions on crossing the Gibraltar frontier. Whatever the stage of the bilateral negotiations between London and Madrid on Gibraltar's status, Spanish entry into the Community would mean it could not maintain the tight control it has imposed at the frontier.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, made this clear in the Commons last Wednesday when he said it was inconceivable that Spain should become a member of the Community while any restrictions remained.

In fact, border blocks of the kind used by Spain run counter to the principle of free movement of workers and goods which is one of the main principles of the EEC.

Spanish entry to the Community, however, still looks a long way off. Before negotiations are complete, it could be that a decision about full Spanish integration in Nato will have been taken by a referendum, and this of itself could have the effect of reducing the present tension over the problem.

It has almost become traditional for European summit meetings to include a paragraph

or two in their final statement looking forward to Spanish membership of the EEC and urging negotiations to be pressed forward on the subject with the greatest speed.

Despite that, the expected date of Spanish entry into the Community has slipped exclusively ever since the application to join was first made on July 28, 1977.

Some thought at the time that the complicated negotiations might take only three years. Then a target date of January 1, 1984, was fixed. Now the best guess is that it cannot be before 1986.

The trouble is that negotiations have become inextricably intertwined with two of the more intransigent problems facing the community. These are the future financing of the budget - including the British contribution problem - and the related matter of reform of the common agricultural policy.

In the Commission's view enlargement will of itself mean that the member-states must be prepared to let the Community budget grow beyond its present legal limits. Britain has said very firmly that it does not agree with this estimate and is

likely to need a great deal of convincing otherwise.

Certainly Britain will oppose any idea of increasing the amount of money available to the Community budget until it is totally satisfied about arrangements for the future financing of the Community as a whole.

Equally France, Italy and Greece will not contemplate Spanish entry to the Community until such time as they are satisfied by new, necessary measures to look after farmers who produce the type of products grown in Mediterranean regions - including wine, olive oil, fruit and vegetables.

Negotiations on both these issues have been making little headway for a considerable time. In theory, there should be substantial progress on both dossiers before the next European summit in Stuttgart on June 6. The leaders of the 10 issued instructions to this effect when they met in Brussels last month.

There is a real feeling that the final accession treaty must pay attention to every detail this time because the negotiations to include Britain and then Greece have both proved to be fraught with traumatic results for the Community.

Fleet visit affecting air traffic, Spain says

From Harry Debelius Madrid

The Spanish Government has sent "an urgent note of protest" to the International Civil Aviation Organization claiming that British manoeuvres off Gibraltar are interfering with normal air traffic, the Government confirmed here yesterday.

The Madrid daily *Diario-16*, insisted for the second successive day that the Royal Navy had violated Spanish territorial waters. The newspaper said the nuclear submarine *Splendid* remained in Spanish waters for nearly eight hours on Thursday. However, there was no immediate official confirmation of the allegation.

The respected Madrid daily *El Pais* speculated that the furor over the Gibraltar manoeuvres might induce Spain to postpone the next meeting on the Gibraltar question which was expected to take place between Señor Fernando Morán, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, on April 25 in Brussels.

The state-run radio network Antena 3 called on listeners to boycott British products, and announced that it will play no more British-produced music until the fleet leaves Gibraltar.

The Madrid Catholic daily *Ya* alleged that, in secret negotiations between Spain and Nato before the Socialists came to power last year, the British Government "favourably viewed" a Spanish proposal to declare Gibraltar a Nato base under the joint command of Spain and Britain, and to allow the Spanish flag to be flown on the Rock.

Stoutly denying that he was apologizing, Mr Joe Bossano, Gibraltar's trade union leader, sent the officers and men of the Royal Navy taking part in Exercise Spring Train a message explaining the 48-hour blacking of their ships which ended yesterday afternoon, Richard Wigg writes. He said it was in no way directed against the members of the ships' companies, but was in protest over plans to close naval

Navy to the rescue

Two helicopters from the aircraft carrier *Invincible* have been involved in a rescue in the Gibraltar area. Late on Thursday night, the master of a semi-submersible oil rig under tow from Bilbao to eastern Spain radioed for help after sustaining back and leg injuries 130 miles west of the Rock, the Defence Ministry said. The Royal Navy Sea King helicopter from *Invincible* flew to the scene in 70 mph winds and poor visibility to evacuate the injured man.

dockyards with a loss in Gibraltar of 1,000 jobs.

The industrial action backfired in Gibraltar when it became entangled with Spain's diplomatic protests to Britain.

The dockyards' civilian labour force will be working double time over the weekend to ensure the naval exercise begins as scheduled on Monday.

US navy 'threat to Russia'

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Admiral Sergei Gorshkov, Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Navy, has accused the United States of increasing its naval power to the point where it can impose a blockade on Russia from the Pacific, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Writing in *Pravda*, Admiral Gorshkov said the United States maintained more than 100 naval and air bases in foreign countries and was using them to interfere in the internal affairs of smaller nations. The Soviet Union, by contrast, had no bases on the territories of other countries.

Admiral Gorshkov said the American aim was "world domination". To this end America had built up its navy on a global scale. In the Pacific, American forces posed a threat to the Soviet Far East, especially following the stationing of nuclear-capable American bombers on Japanese territory.

American naval manoeuvres near Kamchatka last autumn were evidence of "aggressive schemes intended to establish methods of imposing a blockade on the Soviet Union from the sea", Admiral Gorshkov said.

It was no coincidence, the Navy chief wrote, that while American warships and aircraft carriers were patrolling the Sea of Okhotsk in the Far East, American and allied Nato warships were carrying out

naval manoeuvres in the Atlantic. The aim was clearly to close both Pacific and European waters in time of crisis.

The admiral said Washington had "over 180 warships" in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

Western military observers said the *Pravda* article was to justify the continued expansion of Soviet naval forces and to draw attention to Moscow's

"encircled" by American military might, and that Asian Governments should be more friendly to the Soviet Union.

Moscow is expected to formulate its new Asian policy in the light of the visit to South East Asia and Japan by Mr Mikhail Kapitsa, the Deputy Foreign Minister. It is his second tour of the area this year.

One of the main topics raised during his talks with Asian leaders has been Cambodia, where nearly 200,000 Vietnamese troops have been stationed for more than four years.

Mr Kapitsa's trip coincided with clashes between Vietnamese and Thai troops following attacks by Vietnamese-led forces on Cambodian rebel bases on the Thailand-Cambodia border.

Mr Kapitsa said in Singapore that if the countries of the Association of South-east Asia Nations (Asean) did not cease opposing Vietnam's policies in the region, then Vietnam would support insurgent groups operating against Asian governments, which are non-communists.

Asian diplomats here take this as proof that Vietnam's policies in Cambodia and South-east Asia generally are ultimately controlled from Moscow.

British concern at Greek land ruling

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Thursday and among other topics broached the issue of the possible effects the court's judgment could have on British owners of real estate in Greek frontier areas.

The ambassador emphasised the widespread concern felt in Britain in this connection. Unconfirmed reports suggest that more than 1,000 Britons own property in Corfu alone through Greek limited liability companies.

Mr Petreghine Rhodes, the British Ambassador, called on Mr Yiannis Kapsis, the Greek Foreign Under-Secretary, on

Thursday and among other topics broached the issue of the possible effects the court's judgment could have on British owners of real estate in Greek frontier areas.

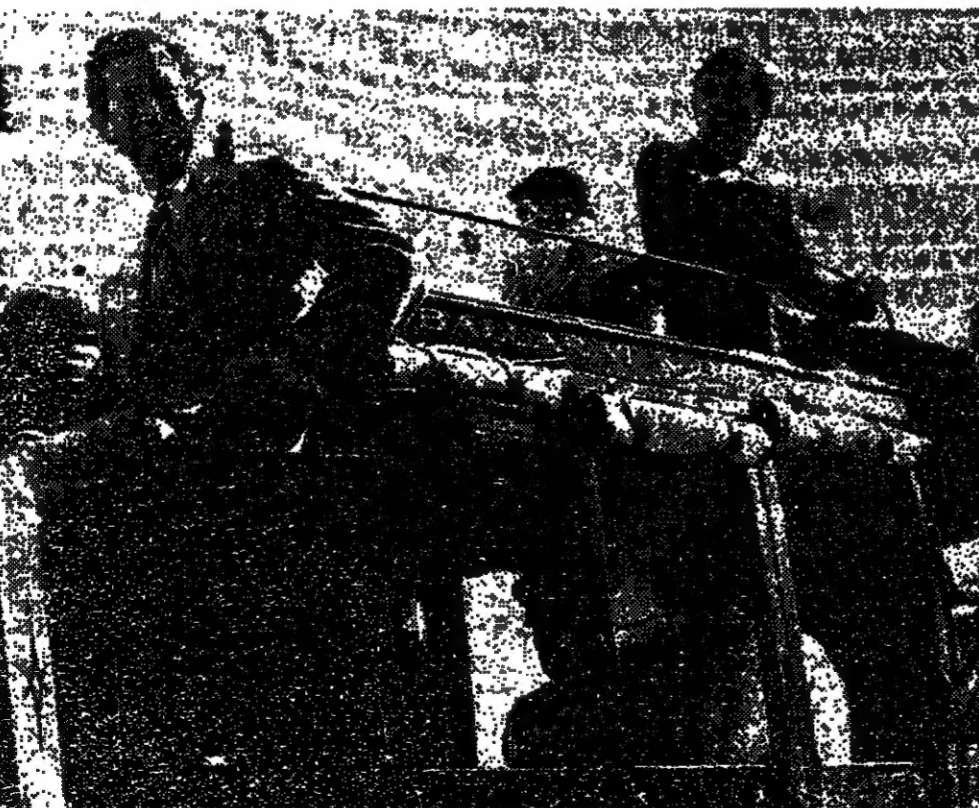
The ambassador emphasised the widespread concern felt in Britain in this connection. Unconfirmed reports suggest that more than 1,000 Britons own property in Corfu alone through Greek limited liability companies.

Mr Kapsis took note and promised to investigate the matter. It is understood that the

British embassy intends to press the matter further as soon as it has studied the full text of the court's ruling.

The Supreme Court's judgment dismisses an appeal by a Greek company controlled by Mr Jacob Rothschild, the London banker, against a decision of a lower court invalidating the transaction for the purchase of a 15-acre estate at Syries in Corfu.

The tribunal ruled that since a 1927 decree bars foreigners from acquiring property in frontier districts,



Taken for a ride: The Prince and Princess of Wales sampling stagecoach travel during a visit yesterday to an old Australian gold-rush town.

Royal couple in plane scare

From Granis Forbes, PA Court Correspondent, Bendigo, Victoria

The Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday flew in an aircraft considered by its captain to be potentially dangerous, because they did not wish to disembark thousands of people who had turned out to see them in Victoria, Australia.

The aircraft's flaps jammed as it brought the royal couple in to land at the small town of Bendigo and it circled for several minutes before the crew were able to lower the flaps manually.

The same thing happened when the aircraft, a British-built HS748 turbo-prop, had arrived at Ballarat to pick up the Prince and Princess. The pilot, an experienced pilot, decided that they would fly in the aircraft. The

Princess was not told of the problem. A Royal Australian Air Force officer said: "The captain thought it not prudent to carry passengers. He considered it a potentially dangerous aircraft. The plane was considered insecure."

But Mr Victor Chapman, press officer for the royal couple, said there was "no anxiety, no problem and no danger."

When the royal couple arrived in Bendigo, 100 miles from Ballarat, the town was swamped with well-wishers. Earlier, the royal couple were challenged by an Australian trooper who claimed they were the "most wanted" people in the old gold rush area of Sovereign Town. The

town, now a tourist resort, staged a welcome in the manner of the days of 1854.

The highlight of the day came when the couple rode in a Wells Fargo-type stage coach through the dusty streets, surrounded by cheering crowds.

After their engagements at Bendigo the couple flew back to their Australian base at Woomargama on a back-up aircraft flown from Canberra. The aircraft which caused the earlier problems was understood to be under repair.

The final engagement of what has undoubtedly been a triumphant and happy tour of Australia is a dinner-dance at the Melbourne Hilton tonight. Tomorrow morning the Prince and Princess fly to New Zealand for a two-week tour.

هكنا من السفر

THE TIMES DIARY

Second thoughts

When the Society of Authors, for the sake of legal privileges and bargaining power, registered as a trade union, Lady Antonia Fraser, its former chairman, resigned her membership. Her grounds, I gather, were that writers should not be in unions which might raise the threat of a closed shop and so on. Now, I learn, she has quietly rejoined. I notice, moreover, that she is among more than 100 signatories to a round-robin in the latest issue of *The Bookseller* demanding a minimum wage in the publishing houses of £6,500 a year (more than some authors earn). The others who have put their names to it include such militants (pardon the word) as Michael Foot, Michael Meacher and Tony Benn.

Heal thyself

The showroom of the Health Education Council in New Oxford Street has been displaying a sign that it is impossible to stay open at lunchtime, due to staff illness. Yesterday things took a turn for the worse. Callers to the outpatient department of the Middlesex Hospital were being told that the department was closed because everyone was sick.

Delayed action

Peter Danckwerts, professor of chemical engineering at Cambridge and a wartime bomb disposal expert, was scornful at the beginning of the week about the way London was brought to a halt for the unexploded bomb in the Thames. He believes the bomb may have been one of four dropped in daylight in late 1940, when its presence was widely known. The Tube, it was seen to fall in the river without exploding by the steward of the Seven Seas Club for Master Mariners, a vessel moored on the north embankment. The Northern Line runs under the river at about that point. Danckwerts was sent into the Tube tunnel to consider whether, if the bomb exploded, it would flood. No one knew how long a delayed action fuse might be, and divers sent down to look could not see each other, let alone the bomb. The hunt was abandoned, the bomb supposed a dud, and the Tube reopened. Possibly it is now safe again for the first time since.

Old salts

Much as I admire the lifeboatmen, I am perturbed by some of the questions in a nationwide ballot the Royal National Lifeboat Institution is carrying out. One question asks whether coxswains should be obliged to take on service "anyone medically unfit", and another "anyone who has been drinking". Oddest of all though is a question asking what should be the preferred age for the retirement of coxswains and other officers. The options listed run from 50 to 90 years of age.

Wildlife Publications have received an order for three of their books: one copy each of *You Can Build a NASA Communication Satellite*; *You Can Build a Three Foot Model of the Space Shuttle*; and *You Can Build a Solar Powered Satellite*. They were wanted for the People's Republic of China.

Straight talking

The news that *Gay News* is to cease publication as a result of a breakdown in negotiations for its sale to the staff puts into abeyance a proposal by Michael Heath that he should draw a strip cartoon for the paper entitled *The Straights*. Heath already drew *The Gays for Private Eye*, but is reportedly embarrassed by complaints from aggrieved homosexuals.

Last year he signalled the end of *The Gays*, but took up his pen once more when *Gay News* responded with a cartoon suggesting that he had run out of stereotypes. Heath was interviewed recently for *Gay News*, and *The Gays* were missing from *Private Eye*'s last issue. But *Eye* editor Richard Ingrams claims to have stiffened Heath's resolve once more and *The Gays* will return. The *Straights*, meanwhile, must wait to see whether the *Gay News* staff can succeed in getting their affairs straightened out. (Sorry.)

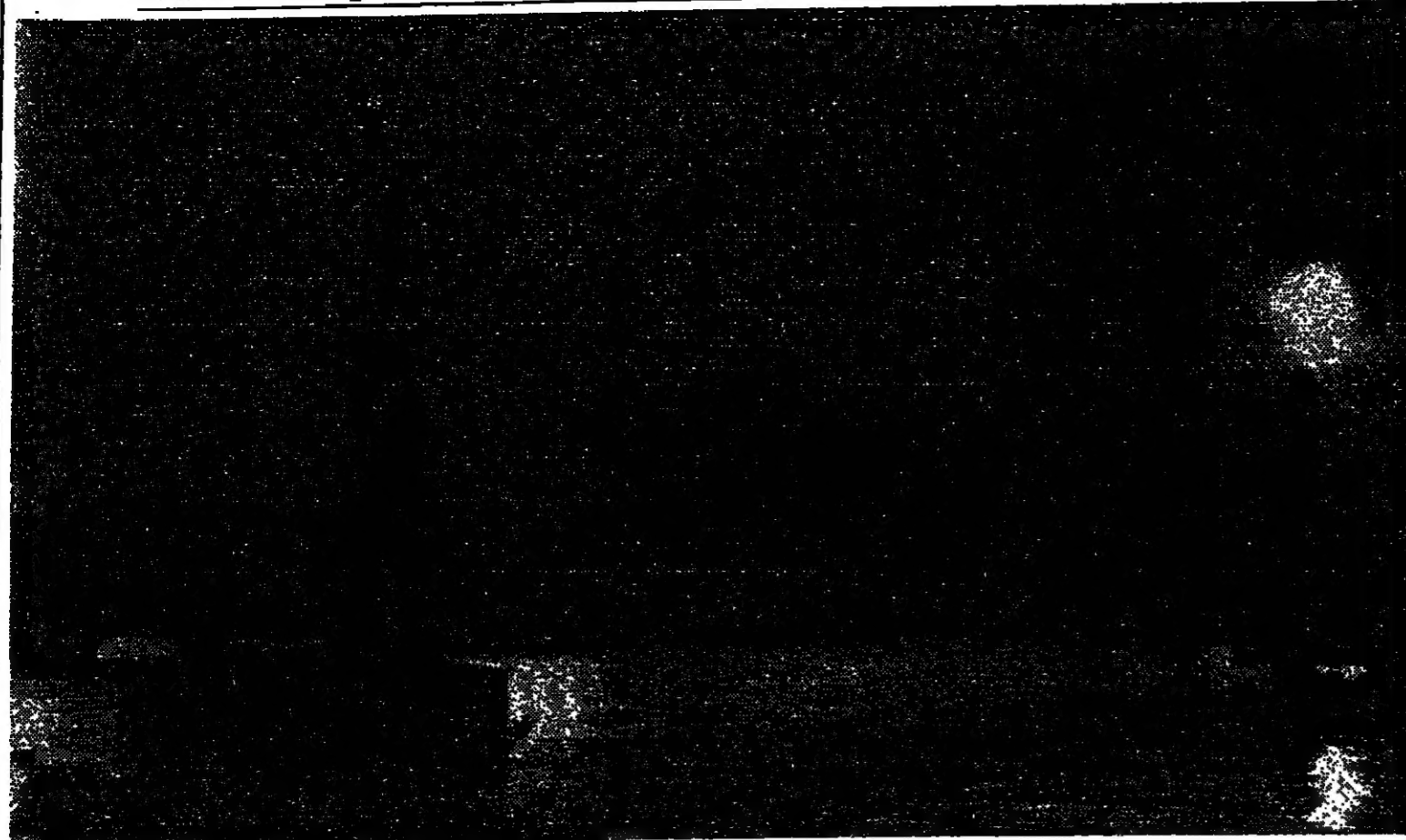
It really was

As I thought, no one is watching Channel 4 by the time it closes down. But some people do videotape late programmes while they sleep, and so I can now confirm my story (*A real clock-up*, April 11) that on the night the clocks went forward the computer switched off Channel 4 automatically, cutting the late night film of its last 20 minutes. Two readers have written to thank me. They had found their tapes of *This Gun for Hire* ended abruptly in mid-action, and had assumed until they read my piece that it was their video tape recorders which had gone on the blink.

Bournemouth's image as a bath chair society is being put to the test. A tourist delegation from Durban, South Africa, has challenged the town to a race between this genteel form of transport and their own counterpart, the rickshaw. But a search has revealed that Bournemouth's only chair is in the town's Russell Cotes Museum, and is unlikely to stand the strain of the race, planned for May 10. Now Bournemouth's tourism department is appealing to residents - young or old - who may have a roadworthy specimen secreted in an attic.

PHS

Gavin Stamp considers the future of a redundant London landmark



What shall we do with this cathedral of power?

Battersea Power Station is finally about to become redundant. Later this year the two remaining active chimneys of one of London's most distinctive landmarks will cease to emit their waste products of burning coal. After more than 50 years of controversy and service what is to be done with it?

The debacle over the recent National Gallery extension competition does not suggest that a competition between developers is necessarily the best way to better buildings for the capital. None the less just such a competition is now being planned to solve the problematic future of Sir Giles Scott's most unlikely representative on the Environment Department's statutory list of buildings of architectural or historical importance.

DoE policy is that no listed buildings should be demolished until every possible alternative use has been explored. New uses for houses or commercial buildings are comparatively easy to find, and even possible with redundant factories or churches. But what alternative use can be found for Battersea's vast boiler room, two slightly less vast turbine halls, some control rooms and switch rooms, a few offices and four gigantic concrete chimneys? The Central Electricity Generating Board has asked a major construction company to hold a competition to find an answer.

Some argue that the building should not have been listed in the first place, but problems of re-use are of no concern to the department's inspectors, who are concerned to make an objective assessment of architectural quality or of historical importance. And in the history of electricity generation and of industrial architecture, Battersea has a very special place. It was the biggest power station in Britain when opened in 1933; it has also become a much loved - as well as hated - London landmark.

The Thames will not be the same without that familiar silhouette, and the journey into Victoria will be less dramatic without those walls of brick filling the window as the train trundles along the adjacent viaduct. When built, Battersea Power Station was widely admired as a "cathedral of power", a striking modern design for a very modern function. In 1938 a group of "celebrities" approached by the *Architects' Journal* selected it as the second best modern building in Britain (first came the Peter Jones store in Sloane Square, third the London Transport headquarters). It was placed first by Charles Laughton and Rebecca West and was the only example proposed by the then Sir Kenneth Clark.

Hacking a way through a forest of figures

It may seem odd, but the Forestry Commission has just spent three years and almost £1m on counting trees all over Britain. First results suggest that there is about one lone tree, perhaps in a garden or on a street corner, for every member of the human population.

But the commission wants much more detailed information than that. The census is meant to tell it how many of each type of tree there are and how many of them are dead. It is also supposed to tell the commission how much growing timber there is in the country, even though much of it is decorative and will never be chopped down.

The census is taken only about every 15 years, and the commission sees the work as proof that it is a seat of learning as well as the pinnacle of a nationalised industry which owns most of our commercial timber.

Industrial buildings can be beautiful. The trouble with power stations is that they have very short lives. In the short, century-old history of electricity generation, the building type evolved rapidly and when Battersea was built power stations were considered to have a life of about 30 years. To have spent money on a solid, carefully designed and well finished permanent structure may seem absurdly shortsighted, but in the long run we are all dead and in the short term temporary buildings can be ugly and a daily affront. For 30 years now Battersea Power Station has succeeded in its original brief and, for the benefit of millions of Londoners, has succeeded in giving architectural dignity to a dirty, anti-social industrial process.

The irony is that Battersea was not wanted in the first place. When, in 1927, a huge new power station was first proposed for a prominent site by the Thames, the boroughs of Westminster and Chelsea petitioned the London County Council to stop it. The President of RIBA told the Prime Minister that the station's smoke would damage historic buildings and pictures in the Tate Gallery. The affair was debated in the Commons and permission was granted only when the Minister of Health had been satisfied that 90 per cent of the sulphur and impurities could be removed from the smoke (achieved by water and teak slats, or "scrubbers", in the corner towers).

This damaging controversy undoubtedly persuaded the London County Council, in 1930, to wheel in a famous architect to try and mollify the opposition. This was Sir Giles Scott, who may have seemed an odd choice as he had not worked on an industrial building before, but as well as the Anglican cathedral in Liverpool and many churches, Scott had also designed the GPO's telephone kiosk and he went on to use his industrial style on the Guinness Brewery in Park Royal. At

Battersea, Scott, as consultant, had the job of improving the pedestrian elevations prepared by Messrs Halfday & Agate. This he did by carefully modelling the corner towers and "column" chimneys, by giving the great masses of wall a certain decorative drama with "jazz modern" fluting and by choosing a beautiful Worcestershire brick and a straw-coloured mortar.

Scott was not, however, responsible for the extraordinary and elaborate interior of the power station - extraordinary in that it could only ever be enjoyed by employees of the London Power Company. The great turbine hall of Battersea 'A' was lined by giant fluted pilasters faced in faience, while the control room has a jazzy, illuminated ceiling and walls of Ribbon Napoleon and Belgian black marble. Today the turbine hall has been stripped of its huge turbines and the floor has been removed. Only the control room is left intact and, with its control desks and formidable ranks of dials and switches, is well worth preserving. But what for?

Ideas for the building's future are, fortunately, not lacking. First in the field was Save Britain's Heritage, ever anxious to show that conservation can be practicable and profitable. The architect Martin Richardson was commissioned to undertake a feasibility study and in his report, published in 1981, he showed how the building could be made into a vast indoor sports arena, combined with an engineering museum (the Science Museum certainly needs to expand). The surrounding land, once covered by coal trucks and coal, could be used for housing and shops. Such a use might please the local borough, Wandsworth, as the area between the power station and Nine Elms market is occupied both by new industry and by housing. Other ideas include a giant discotheque and an incinerator for rubbish which would generate electricity.

Save's report seems to have had the desired effect, for the Central Electricity Generating Board is showing a more positive and imaginative attitude to its redundant buildings than other nationalized industries, such as British Rail, and is holding a competition to elicit other ideas for the future of Battersea. Details of this will be published in the next few weeks, but the CEBG is not organizing this themselves. Rather it has asked the Taylor Woodrow group to organize the developer competition to find a viable use for the listed building, and it is reassuring to learn that the retention, unaltered, of the exterior is regarded as axiomatic.

I trust that Taylor Woodrow were not chosen because of their success in "conserving" St Katharine's Dock. There they began with five warehouses; today there is just one left. The judges of the competition have yet to be announced. If I was a judge I fear I would favour a scheme that included the emission of smoke from the chimneys.

So Battersea may well be preserved. But is it the only power station worth keeping, and is it the best? Dunston "B" power station near Newcastle was built in 1930-33, exactly contemporary with Battersea, but there the engineers Merz & McClellan adopted a very different architectural solution. Instead of a monumental masonry exterior, the turbines at Dunston were covered by an elegant, functional cube of glass and steel, an idea more in tune with modern thinking. But the Dunston chimneys have also ceased to smoke and the power station lies cold, unlisted and unloved in the industrial wastes of Gateshead. It deserves attention.

And then there is Bankside, opposite the City, begun in 1947 and finished only in 1960. Yet this, too, will soon be redundant and it was Scott's masterpiece: the only complete realization of his ideal "cathedral of power". Battersea was a compromise with which he was never quite happy; at Bankside he gathered up the flues into one great campanile. It is a beautifully composed and detailed mass of fine brickwork and in much better condition than Battersea. It ought to be listed and it could also be found an alternative use. I hope the CEBG are thinking of its next competition.

The author is chairman of the *Thirties Society* and the author of *Temples of Power*, a book of *Litographs of London's electricity generating stations* by Glynn Boyd Harne (Cygnets Press, Burford, Oxon).

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Mike Locke: "Nice to have the information"

the new and old censuses were conducted in ways so different that comparisons are invalid.

But the main opposition has come from the Nature Conservancy Council, a wildlife quango which feels that the commission's claim is over-optimistic.

Nobody quarrels with the commission's statistics because nobody else has sent 15 researchers into the fields and woods of Britain for three years. Only the commission has had the time and money to swoop-over parks and gardens in its own aircraft to photograph their leafy contents.

The press conference at which the commission produced its first results was ignored by most of the press. The few reporters who appeared were treated to a learned exposition about digitizing and laser

techniques. While the experts were speaking, my thoughts drifted frivolously to the silent film in which Charlie Chaplin played an American soldier who disguised himself as a tree to escape gigantic Germans. With branches for sleeves he fled through a forest as his confused pursuers plucked their bayonets into unmistakably wooden trunks. A few pranksters equipped with such camouflage in recent years could have played havoc with the commission's census work.

Woodlands were the easy part of the census since the commission owns many of them and keeps records of most of the rest. Trees outside woodlands had to be counted, sometimes with aerial photographs and sometimes by investigators on the ground.

In the south-eastern counties and south London they found just over 10 million trees outside woodlands, or about one tree for every person in the region. They found well over 300,000 elms, of which 206,460 were dead, and about 2.5 million oaks, of which almost all were alive.

What was it all for? Mr Mike Locke, a veteran of the 1947 survey and now the commission's census supremo, said that one of the surprises in the latest investigation had been the large number of fast-growing cypresses in gardens. "You only have to take a train or bus journey to see how many cypresses there are," he said.

But he insisted that there was more to the census than spending three years discovering something that could be spotted from a train window. Lone trees made an important contribution to the appearance of the landscape, and powerful forces wanted to know how many there were. "The Department of the Environment and the Countryside Commission thought it would be nice to have that information," Mr Locke said.

The commission's computers are producing a formidable barrage of information. Nobody disputes, for example, the commission's claim that Berkshire has 1,660 lone conker trees with trunks between eight and 12 inches wide in diameter. The council claims that if any comparison can be made between the 1947 figures and the new ones, it is that the broadleaved area is slightly but distinctly smaller in the south-east, and not the same as the commission claims.

Mr George Peterken, the council's chief woodland specialist, thinks it unfortunate that the new census does not distinguish recently planted broadleaved woodlands from ancient woodlands which date back to the Middle Ages. "There has been quite a loss of ancient woodland since the war," he said. "The broadleaved woodland which has replaced it is not so good a habitat for wildlife."

Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

David Butler

Scrap, cackle and pap

Breakfast television may not be drawing in the audiences it hoped for, but it may offer a powerful new element in the next election campaign, as politicians rush to be consumed with the breakfast cereals. Few people appreciate how much the media have transformed electioneering in the last generation. And what has happened so far may be only the beginning.

In the early 1950s, when television and radio backed out general elections, the voters got their campaign news through the press. Eighty per cent of people saw one out of the 10 very partisan Fleet Street newspapers, which filled their columns mainly with reports of the leaders' speeches at great evening rallies. Challenge and response was lacking. There was very little intermingling between the arguments of the two sides. Each seemed to be manoeuvring against straw armies of their own devising.

The scene changed sharply in 1959. Radio and television began to report the campaign for the first time and to provide occasions for the rivals to meet in argument. These party confrontations before an audience watching in the quiet of their homes tempered the customary excesses of political rhetoric and, together with dutifully balanced news coverage, had the effect both of sharpening and blurring the political argument. On the one hand the two sides were forced to answer each other's case; on the other hand the public were taught how much less divided were the parties than they had thought; listening to two Oxbridge smoothies discussing the economy with studied reasonableness, it was much harder to divide the rivals into heroes and villains.

A second phenomenon of 1959 was the coming of the morning press conference. Labour's General Secretary, Morgan Phillips, had been sidetracked into doing this routine chore, which in the past had dealt merely with details of meetings and leaders' tours. He seized the opportunity brilliantly and made headlines day after day, stealing unwelcome column-inches in the most Tory of newspapers. The Conservatives had to follow suit. And so, ever since, to the delight of the media, Smith Square has seen press conferences every morning of the campaign at which party leaders set out the themes of the day and answer the challenges carried from the other side. The battle lines are set here and journalists realize that they can cover the election from London; they no longer have to secure all their stories by pursuing the party leaders around their exhausting provincial circuits.

The party leaders, too, have learnt that they win coverage not by a measured argument so much as by a quick quote that will grab 60 seconds of a news bulletin, or even by wholly epiphenomenal pseudo-events, photogenic happenings like walking through a shopping centre or cuddling a calf.

Over the past 20 years the process has been increasingly speeded up. Sir Robin Day conducts a 9 am phone-in on radio and any slip by his victim provides grist for the 10.30 press conference. That supplies the copy for the midday bulletins, which will often offer a platform for leading spokesmen on each side to make a riposte, which in turn will be dealt with on the early evening news and the later discussion programmes, in time for a final wrap-up in the 9 and 10 o'clock bulletins. Public meetings now make less and less contribution to the

reporting of an election, and the big rallies are set earlier and earlier so that the quick film clips can be processed for the screen.

Breakfast television, it is to be feared, will further elongate the campaigning day. Leading figures, bleary though they may be, will not be able to resist the chance of nationwide exposure and, however small the audience, what they say on each channel will be monitored and provide material for the next broadcast or press conference.

At first sight, those who care for democracy should rejoice at these extended opportunities for debate. The more outlets there are the more escape is possible from the usually excessive focus on the top leaders of the parties; and the more diversified will be the weighing-up of the issues.

But it does not work like that. There is a herd instinct in media coverage which encourages everyone to plagiarize everyone else and to follow the same story. There is also a lust for news that is new. Politicians find they can win headlines by saying something fresh, even if it is trivial; an accusation, a refutation, a counter-accusation all can sound original, even if they are worth no more than a quip at question time. The quick "quote" always seems to triumph over the reasoned paragraph. Old truths and fundamental issues can be ignored as boring, while new trivia wins bold type.

The instant capping of the rival camp's stories has become the name of the game. No news editor will ignore an effective put-down from one side that responds to a trumpeted statement from the other. Occasionally there is some substance in the tit-for-tat but usually it involves the most ritual of point-scoring. There are plenty of instances of stories with little intrinsic interest that are kept alive only by a dreary exchange of challenge and reply of the sort that, by current media conventions, demands continued coverage.

Last month I watched an Australian election in which this process reached a new level. Each side monitored the other and produced its instant response. When Mr Paul Keating, now Australia's Treasurer, admitted on a Melbourne phone-in that he was not absolutely certain that everything in Labour's economic programme would work out, only 10 minutes elapsed before Mr Fraser was making fun of him in Perth, 2,000 miles away. But this story, which led the bulletins for a few hours, was dead by the next day.

When the media report almost hourly, and insist on novelty, and when the politicians play up to their demands, the election is likely to become more and more trivialized. And then, as happened in Australia, the media will turn and bite the hand that has been feeding them; the editorials and the columnists will complain of the emptiness and the low level of the campaign. What is the politician to do when fundamental, carefully argued statements of the case for socialism or for monetarism go unreported, while well-honed rudenesses and flip accusations win attention? At election time, above all, a politician wants to be heard and he will speak in whatever terms get listened to.

The more that an election is turned into a continuous high-speed exchange that runs from crack of dawn to midnight, the more the democratic debate is likely to be demeaned.

The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

Katie Lander

Not quite pukka but what a chukker

Elephant polo is not, as one might imagine, a legacy of the Raj but one of the newest international sports, admittedly a minority one.

On April 1, appropriately enough, six teams assembled in Nepal's Chitwan National Park, 75 miles south-west of Katmandu, with the Himalayas as a dramatic background, for the first World Elephant Polo Association championships. The teams, representing India, Nepal, Scotland, England, British Gurkhas and the US, were the Rajasthan Ramblers, the Tiger Tops Tuskers, the James Mandark Irregulars, the Edward Lear Irregulars, British Gurkha Gladiators (Himalbal's Own) and the Pan Am Jumbos. The spirit of prep school playing fields quickly descended.

The players, housed in tents with no electricity, no hot water and no shortage of gin, were cheerfully woken at 5.30 am for bacon and eggs. As the English team blearily pushed open the flaps of their tents, they were amazed to see their Indian opponents one by one taking their splendid red turbans from the head of their captain. Maharaja Sultan Singh had really mastered the art of wrapping their intricate head-dress and had won the team contract.

The polo field, better known locally as the Meghauai airstrip, was a 30-minute Land-Rover ride, fording two rivers - or a two-hour lumber away, depending on whether you were a player or a played-upon. The game required three men on each elephant, a sort of team within a team, with four beasts on each side plus one for the referee. Up front was the mahout, the animal's keeper, who, like Dr Doolittle, talked the elephant through the game. The official player sat behind, precariously perched on a straw-mattress waving an extraordinarily long polo stick. Another mahout at the back controlled the rope around the player's waist, simply to keep him on board.

The WEPA, founded by James Mandark, British bob-sleigh champion and polo player, initially assumed that a larger ball would be needed, and so a consignment of footballs was sent for. The game then changed from elephant polo to

elephant football-bursting. Traditional polo balls were quickly substituted. The sticks, ranging in length from 85 to 100 inches, according to the size of the elephant and player, had so much give in them that they were known by the pukka chaps as whippers.

As the five-day championship developed, tactics improved. A language evolved between player and mahout, with the mahout's shirt collar used as a directional joystick. A sharp tug in one direction ensured that a message would instantly be transmitted to the elephant. Star elephants emerged. As the elephants travelled at only a measly two miles an hour, there was not too much time in a 10-minute chukker for sophisticated formations.

Each day crowds of bemused villagers surrounded the airfield to watch the teams, with their elegant outfits and eccentric ways, battle to become Elephant Polo Champions of the World.

Four days of serious play culminated in a final contest between the Pan Am Jumbos and the Tiger Tops Tuskers. Thousands surrounded the field to witness the clash. The real stars of the show, the elephants, had clearly been up all night being plastered with make-up. The toss for elephants was made, and once the field was cleared of droppings from the semi-final, play commenced. The heat was sweltering. The visiting supporters, alerted and screamed while the Nepalese calmly squatted around the edge, sensibly keeping cool under large black umbrellas. A few lucky ones had a grandstand view from the top of the airstrip's mobile staircase. Champagne flowed when the Tuskers emerged 2-0 winners, proving that polo experience at Windsor Great Park does not count for much where elephants are concerned.

The next day, peace and quiet returned to this jungle retreat. The elephants were back on their jungle safaris in search of the Royal Bengal Tiger, the great Indian one-horned rhinoceros and the sloth bear. The teams headed for Katmandu and the long journey home. And already there was talk of a camel polo championship in Jaipur.



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TIMING IT RIGHT

The constitution provides a framework of quinquennial parliaments. It was seven years until it became five in 1906. The five years are not a set term but a maximum. The prime minister may at any time advise the sovereign to dissolve parliament. The circumstances would have to be very special these days for the advice not to be accepted. The prime minister's discretion has been used since 1945 in such a way that the average length of a parliament, the interval between general elections, has been three years and five months.

So we have five-year parliaments in theory and three-and-a-half-year parliaments on average (or four-year parliaments if the "second bite" elections in 1966 and October 1974 are ignored). The span is too short for the health of the system. One of the defects of the British political system since the war has been the frequency of changes of direction in government policy. Not all the chopping and changing is due to general elections, nor do all general elections cause policy to swing. But the steady compression of the parliamentary term has a tendency in that direction. The tendency ought to be resisted.

The political introduction of beneficial changes in public arrangements and public attitudes needs as much time as is available, if they are to be lasting. The present Prime Minister is often quoted as saying that her government came in with a programme for two parliaments. The truth of that is to be found not only in the volume of legislation implicit in the programme, but even more in the need for a stable framework in which policies, reforms and ideas may become rooted and grow.

There is therefore a presumption against an early dissolution of parliament. It may be negated by particular configurations of politics, but none of the familiar ones applies to this government at this time. It is in no danger of overthrow or collapse from within. It is firmly seated and its policies are maturing slowly but satisfactorily according to its own criteria. It shows less sign of exhaustion of persons or ideas than is usual at this stage of the political cycle. No novel issue of great moment has arisen that might be thought to require the judgment of the electorate.

All the same, serious reasons that are distinct from party advantage are now being advanced in favour of a June election, ten or eleven months before time is up. Expectations have been allowed to develop so far, it is said, that it would now be unwise to disappoint them.

The perfume of these expectations is certainly overpowering inside the Westminster hothouse since it filled up again after the Easter recess, and there is a whiff of it further afield. But it could be rapidly dissipated by a categorical disavowal by the Prime Minister.

She has so far declined to take any of her many opportunities for disavowal, most noticeably when she went on the air after her return from the Falkland Islands in the new year, a pilgrimage that set the rumour running. Presumably she is happy to see the speculation spread. But unless she is going to go on the strength of the local election results that will be in by early May she will have to dampen speculation then.

A related reason given for an early poll is that the parliament has now run its "natural" course, that the shadow of the election inhibits any further major and therefore controversial legislation, and that the political direction of the country will mark time for a year while all the actors suffer from electoral neurosis.

It is of course part of the case for full-term parliaments that the later stages should not be wasted by paralysis. It is true that if the election is not held until next spring half a session's prime legislative time will be mostly lost. But legislation is not the sum of government or even its primary function. Foreign policy is largely conducted without it, and in so far as economic policy requires it, fiscal enactments and instruments should present no problem up to the very end of the parliament. If ministers are so mesmerized by the approach of an election that they lose the power of decision and capacity for action, far better that they should run for it now. But there is nothing in the system or the present composition of politics to deprive ministers of the capacity to govern effectively in the last year of this parliament if they are of a mind to do so.

The "run on the pound" argument for an early election looks even less compelling now than when it was trotted out in January. It is now clear that there were sufficient objective reasons for the fall of sterling from its November level independently of any threat Mr Peter Shore may have given the market. His ill-considered remarks have been widely accepted, though ministers have a presentational difficulty in saying so, that the fall they were warning Mr Shore for precipitating is a boon to the economy.

A more substantial reason for June is the state of the negotiations at Geneva about the

deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe. The Kremlin, likely enough, will not move towards a compromise position at least until it has to resign the hope that political failure will frustrate Nato's contingent counter-deployment of cruise and Pershing II missiles, and the Kremlin will not resign that hope until all possibility of there being a Labour government in Britain by May 1984 is removed. At best therefore the prolongation of political uncertainty in Britain would delay a movement into constructive negotiation at Geneva, at worst it might preclude it altogether.

That argument deserves to be taken very seriously in weighing the options for a dissolution, but it falls short of being decisive. The reluctance of the Russians to enter the area of compromise before the last possible moment is probably already established irrespective of their calculations about British domestic politics.

There remains an argument in which considerations of national interest and party advantage coalesce. On top of their familiar differences in social and economic programmes the Labour and Conservative parties diverge in respect of fundamental questions of defence and foreign policy — nuclear arms and membership of the European Community. These matters go deep into Britain's defence posture and the structure of its alliances. The fact that they are now in contention invests the next general election with an importance all its own. To anyone who puts a high value on Britain's emplacement in the Community and its role in the western strategy of nuclear deterrence, that might seem a compelling argument, to the exclusion of others, in favour of an election at whatever moment is most likely to produce the desired result. June?

Inconveniently, the argument fails its only practical test, since it is far from plain when that moment of maximum advantage is or is to be. The entrails, which now include those of the Liberal/SDP alliance, are as difficult to read as ever.

The decision is by convention the Prime Minister's. If she goes for June she will not be without precedents or precedents. But there is no present writing on the wall to contradict the presumption that the parliament should be allowed to run its full course; that it is better, for the good governance of the country, that the normal term within the five-year limit should be stretched not compressed. That, in all likelihood, will have been Mrs Thatcher's first view of the matter. She should be guided by it.

RECOVERY WITHOUT INFLATION

Claims that economic recovery is about to begin have been made several times in the last three years. So far they have always been wrong. It has been a trustworthy rule that the economy would show symptoms of renewed weakness as soon as a government minister made a speech heralding signs of stronger demand and activity.

But optimistic remarks are now coming from an unexpected quarter. Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, predicted on Thursday that manufacturing output would rise by 3½ per cent or more over the next 12 months, a rather higher figure than that forecast by the Treasury. The CBI's new confidence is significant since in the past it has been consistently and, in the event, rightly — more cautious than the Government about business prospects. Definite, although as yet not very impressive, confirmation of economic improvement came with the publication yesterday of the February industrial production figures, showing a 1 per cent rise on January.

A revival may not, however, be an unqualified blessing. The recession seems to have instilled some good new habits in industry, notably a willingness among workforces to accept more advanced technology and union preparedness to relate wage demands to companies' ability to pay. There is a fear that recovery will cause a return to the bad old habits associated with prosperity.

The twenty-five years to 1973 saw not only increasing affluence, but also widespread resistance to change and poor labour relations, with an unfortunate tendency in many basic industries for crippling strikes to break out over trivial issues. It is ominous that the recent upturn, which is still at a very early and tender stage, should have been accompanied by disputes in the British Steel Corporation and British Leyland very similar in

their pettiness and futility to those in the 1950s and 1960s.

There is a more general concern. The Government's overriding priority has been to reduce inflation. It has been prepared to see the worst recession since the 1930s in order to change attitudes and persuade wage-bargainers that macroeconomic policy will not accommodate excessive pay awards. But will the favourable shift in attitudes be reversed if the economy starts to move forward? Is higher inflation the inevitable associate of more buoyant economic conditions?

The evidence until now suggests favourable answers to these questions. Wage awards continue to decline and inflation, which should have been stimulated by the pound's depreciation, has been more or less steady in the last few months. But it is hard to be certain that these are anything more than standard cyclical patterns.

The hope on this occasion must be that the downturn has been so severe, and the degree of slack in the economy has risen to such alarming levels, that behaviour will be different from that in a normal recovery. There is, indeed, one fundamental argument which suggests that behaviour will be different. It is based on the familiar Friedman doctrine that, because the rate of wage increases will rise continuously if unemployment is beneath the so-called "natural rate", it is pointless and damaging for governments to manage demand in pursuit of a hypothetical full employment target.

This idea is generally regarded as always having a gloomy and pessimistic message for policy-makers. In its scepticism about the ability of governments to change economic performance for the better it seems to be a characteristic product of the dismal science. But, in present circumstances, its implications are unquestionably more encouraging than many rival theories.

The point is that the continuous decline in wage settlements over the last three years suggests that unemployment today must be much above the natural rate. Moreover, as long as unemployment remains above the natural rate settlements will keep on falling. If, for example, the natural rate is two million and unemployment drops from three million to two-and-a-half million, there would still be so many people looking for jobs that employers would continue to exert downward pressure on wage awards. There could be a phase — and possibly a prolonged phase — of both falling unemployment and falling inflation. This would come to an end only if unemployment was cut to beneath two million.

After the progressive deterioration in economic performance over the last three decades it may seem foolhardy to suggest that there could come years of falling inflation and falling unemployment. But this benign combination has become possible only because the economy now suffers from such an appallingly high level of unused productive potential. The improved prospects — and many observers would deny that they exist — should not be a cause of any particular jubilation.

If a better outlook for jobs is to be reconciled with further declines in inflation it is essential that the Government does not trumpet the arrival of recovery too loudly. Awareness of an upturn may, ironically, tend to shorten its life by reviving inflationary expectations. Rampant inflationary expectations aggravate collective bargaining, and are the enemy of both price stability and high employment. Since the Government cannot in the long run do anything — except by improving the workings of the labour market — to promote full employment, it would be best if ministerial statements continue to emphasize that the main official economic responsibility is the provision of a sound currency.

Not so neutral at the CABs

From Mr J. A. Millson

Sir, Mr Jonathan Davies (April 14) has completely misunderstood what the dispute about the citizens' advice bureau is all about. The Minister is not criticising the work done by the bureau, or "attacking" the organization. Indeed, in his statement in Parliament (which Mr Davies clearly did not read) he went out of his way to pay tribute to the valuable work done by the bureau.

What the Minister appears to be concerned about are activities which he considers to be of a political nature. If Mr Davies simply attends a weekly legal session at one bureau, I doubt whether he is very well up in the internal "politics" of the organization. Many of the voluntary workers who spend more time in a bureau (of whom I am one) will know quite well what the Minister is concerned about.

The advice bureau organization is non-political, mainly staffed by voluntary workers, drawn from all shades of political opinion. It is largely financed from taxpayers' and ratepayers' money. It should maintain a position of absolute political neutrality and not involve itself in matters of political controversy. Its proper role is to advise people on their existing rights, not to campaign to change those rights. There are people in the organization who would like to turn it into another left-wing pressure group. The Minister is presumably trying to see that this does not happen, and I, for one, have no quarrel with that.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MILLSON,
9 The Highway,
Sutton, Surrey.

Lawful demonstrations

From Mr Evelyn King

Sir, If the words of the Home Secretary, spoken before Parliament rose in the House of Commons were correctly reported (Parliamentary report, April 2), he appeared to say that what was going on at Greenham Common was lawful. Stated thus it is not so.

What should be made clear is that, whilst the act of demonstrating is, of course, lawful it ceases to be so if exercised by strangers on the floor of the House of Commons, on any laws, in gateways, or in any circumstances in which trespass, damage to property, and obstruction are involved, and at Greenham these are all involved.

If the illegality were confined to the nuclear fission issue it could be argued that this is a special case and in the context of conscientious objection the law has often, in the past, been stretched.

But this is not so. Unemployment, gay rights, fox hunting, industrial disputes, animal rights, women's lib, racial equality (the list is endless) all seem now to assert not the right to demonstrate readily granted but the right to trespass, to obstruct, to damage and to hurt. These activities injure innocent people chosen at random.

They increase the charge to rates in respect of policing for this country or that. A single county has already spent huge sums of ratepayers' money in this way. They reduce, at random, the value of homes, often painfully bought with mortgages hanging around people's necks. They, at random, invade privacy.

No demonstrator, however ideal his cause, however strong his conviction, can justify bullying of the innocent on an indiscriminate hit list. The abuse steadily grows. It is for MPs to move Parliament to protect their constituents from injustice.

Yours truly,
EVELYN KING,
Embley Manor,
Mr R. Jones,
Hampshire,
April 11.

Nuclear balance

From Mr Joe Gomme

Sir, In your leader of March 31, discussing President Reagan's new proposals for the Geneva missile talks, you repeat the "absolute American requirement" that the British and French nuclear weapons be excluded from the negotiations.

Surely it is difficult for the Soviet Union to accept that the United States does not negotiate for Nato as a whole, since there is no accommodation of the anomalous position of Britain and France with respect to the two alliances.

Perhaps we might consider the problems for Nato representatives inherent in any decision by, for example, East Germany or Czechoslovakia to produce nuclear weapons.

Yours sincerely,
JOE GOMME,
Barleyhall Hall,
Church Lawton,
Stoke-on-Trent,
Staffordshire,
March 31.

Christians and Jews

From Archdeacon Derek Hayward

Sir, The one fact which Christians seem unable to come to terms with is that an uncrucified Jesus would not have been their saviour's redeemer. Failure to accept this may be partly due to the long tradition of preaching that "Our (your) sins sent Jesus to the Cross, and we crucify him afresh each time we sin", by which the preacher hopes to induce repentance by making his hearers hate their sinful selves.

Leaving aside the fact that Christian preachers ought to know better than to use hate as a weapon against anyone, the effect of this is actually to transfer the hatred to the people who obviously did send Jesus to the Cross. If I ought to hate myself for crucifying Jesus, "my sins" — a connection which is not all that easy to see — how much more I ought to hate the people who really

Visits to other foreign fields

From Mr Marilyn Rees, MP for Leeds South (Labour)

Sir, Your editorial, "The geography of grief" (April 14), on the matter raised by Lena Jeger in the House of Lords, concerns the need for those widowed by war to be helped to visit the graves of their loved ones, put the issue in perspective in its concluding words. "If at all possible the bereaved should be able to visit those corners (of a foreign field) however great the lapse of time since their loss. They have a claim on our compassion, our gratitude and our purse."

I have written to the Prime Minister twice on the matter and on January 18, 1983, she wrote to me expressing the view "that the numbers would be very large, and it would be far too difficult and expensive to organise."

I realise the problems, but why not introduce a phased scheme beginning with those widowed in 1914? As the Prime Minister reminded me, there was a scheme for relatives to visit European war cemeteries in the late forties and early fifties.

If it could be done then, and not all entitled availed themselves of it if the Falklands visit could be organised, then the Government can act now.

There is a sense of injustice which has been stimulated by the recent Falklands visit which the Government must remove.

Yours sincerely,
MYRLYN REES,
House of Commons,
April 14.

From Mrs Iris Strange
Sir, I strongly dispute figures given by the Ministry of Defence concern-

ing visits by war widows to war cemeteries.

There are now only 55,000 widows still living whose husbands were killed in the Second World War. Those from the First World War are so elderly that it is doubtful whether any could undertake such journeys.

Out of the 55,000 war widows left many thousands do not know where their husbands are buried because they lie in unidentified graves. There are many thousands of men who were lost in the Far East where they applied, as in the case of my own husband. Thousands more were lost at sea and many more thousands of airmen lost without trace as is clearly shown on the Runnymede Memorial where the names of 20,000 airmen are commemorated. That reduces the given figure dramatically and out of those left some will already have visited their husbands' graves, usually with financial help from their families, and there will be others who have no wish to make such a pilgrimage.

It is very misleading and unfair for anyone to give the impression that 65,000 war widows would all be rushing to see war cemeteries if free travel were to be provided, and it is no doubt intended to damp down public sympathy by implying that the number involved is far too great to be considered. The truth is that the real figure is probably a very modest one.

Yours faithfully,
IRIS STRANGE,
Hon President/Secretary,
British War Widows and Associates,
40 Lime Avenue,
High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire,
April 14.

Aid to Third World

From Mr George C. Abbott

Sir, Professors Peter Bauer and Basil Yamey claim (feature, April 11) that aid cannot significantly promote development, relieve poverty in the Third World, promote world peace or make friends for the West, relieve unemployment at home, nor can it resolve the so-called international financial crisis.

Isn't this asking an awful lot of aid? In 1981, total resource flows from the OECD countries as a group averaged 1.2 per cent of their combined gnp. To have achieved or at least made significant inroads into any of these major world problems would have been remarkably cheap at that price.

However, the real weakness of their article is they present a blanket condemnation of aid without actually specifying what type of resource flows they are talking about. Consequently, private capital flows which account for more than half the total resource flows to the developing countries are treated as though they are official development assistance, generally taken as the "true" aid element of any aid programme. In fact, there is a

singular lack of statistical data or hard facts to support any of the claims which they make.

Some of their claims are really quite extraordinary. They claim, for instance, that "a poor South is no military threat to the West". Why, then, did the US get involved in Vietnam? Why did President Kennedy embark on his grandiose scheme of an Alliance for Progress and why has President Reagan launched his Caribbean Basin Initiative?

Again, they claim that "the flow of aid has not conduced to harmony within the Third World". No one has ever argued that it could or even that it should. This is a completely new and specious argument.

Similarly, they accuse aid of "being the source of North/South conflict". Surely, the onus is on them to produce some hard evidence to support such a claim. It is not enough to assert, one must be able to prove.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. ABBOTT, Chairman,
Centre for Development Studies,
University of Glasgow,
Adam Smith Building,
Glasgow,
April 12.

Filling the school void

From Mr Alan Haselhurst, MP for Saffron Walden (Conservative)

Sir, Your reform plan for education (leading article, April 12) would bring the Manpower Services Commission and practical skills training into the heart of the schools. This is wise advice, but the question is whether it goes far enough. The "school void" may never be properly filled whilst education and training are kept so far apart.

It is not on our schools or the efforts of teachers to observe that a significant proportion of pupils depart from the formal education system without adequate preparation for economic life. For a disturbingly high number it has been early departure by means of truancy. This is a serious commentary on the relevance of what schools can offer to many of their pupils. It is all the more depressing when young people at a later time are heard to bemoan their missed opportunities. The present system provides too few second chances.

If there is to be a better marriage between training and education, I believe it may be altogether too restrictive to suggest that this can occur only within the school. The legislative framework might be broadened to allow, where appropriate, a pupil-trainee's development to be treated as a managed whole between the ages of 13 and 19.

Free passage could be arranged between the classroom, the college, the training workshop, the community service opportunity. The formula would vary according to the needs of a particular person and supervision would remain with the teacher, but a teacher with an enhanced tutorial responsibility for which special training would be required.

By taking a pupil who is plainly not benefiting from the classroom and placing him in an alternative environment, there may be a better chance of uncovering talent and

building up the motivation to qualify for some measure of achievement. A certain kind of young person may find outside the school the spur to return to it in pursuit of his own newly found ambition.

Surely this is an area to be explored and the Conservative Party would demonstrate its commitment to good education for all if its election manifesto expressed that intention.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN HASELHURST,
House of Commons,
April 13.

From Mr Peter Snape

Sir, Many teachers will agree with much of what you say in your leader, "Filling the school void", of April 12, especially where you rightly stress the importance of the distinguished teacher, but there are a number of astonishing naiveties in your article.

The Nissen hut method doesn't work any more, especially with technical subjects, languages, science, and resource-based learning generally. Grammar schools did not fade away because of Mr Croxland, but because ordinary people in a democratic society want for their children what the best people want for theirs. Your proposal for streaming by aptitude will probably founder on the same rock.

As for the Manpower Services Commission, Mr Holland's job-specific syllabuses with their outright exclusion of the humanities, arts, literature and religion are no basis for general education, which is still the proper business of schools.

Most important, most teachers I know are both elitist and achievement-oriented; their own careers have made them so.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SNAPE, Headmaster,
King Edward VI School,
Totnes,
South Devon,
April 13.

were responsible. In fact the person who is truly crucified by sin is the sinner himself, and only in so far as it is true to speak of "Christ in me" does it crucify him.

As H. W. Vanstone has shown in his recent book, *The Silence of Waiting*, those who were responsible for the death of Jesus from Judas onwards acted in accordance with what Jesus wanted and expected and had they not done so the key to the human condition would not have been revealed to a suffering humanity. For the unique insight which Christianity has to offer is that the forces which seem to break us down — and what could break a man down more than being crucified? — can in fact have precisely the opposite effect.

This is hardly the place to enlarge on how that can happen, except to say that it is not in human power to bring about and that the whole apparatus of Christian religious

observation in all its varied forms is designed to enable the power which was released in the Crucifixion and subsequent Resurrection of Jesus — leaving aside exactly what that latter word may mean — to be at work in the participants so that they are built up rather than broken down by the daily events of their lives.

So far, therefore, from hating the Jews we should be grateful to them for having been the instruments which made this possible, though we may be sad that a nation which, in the course of its long history, has so amply proved the redemptive power of suffering should be unable to accept that God himself first blazed the trail.

Yours truly,
DEREK HAYWARD,
All Saints' Vicarage,
61 Church Street,
Old Isleworth,
Middlesex.

Burning issue for birds in wild

From the Director of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Sir, As spring unfolds, nesting birds in the uplands will be threatened with fire and destruction. Every year, often for otherwise sound land management reasons, moorland is burned well into the nesting season, despite legal sanctions designed to stop this suffering. A RSPB survey in Wales found 2,341 burns taking place after March 31 in a year when only 29 licences were issued to permit burning beyond that date. It seems that existing regulations are widely flouted.

Sadly, an opportunity for a cool look at the issue has been avoided by the Ministry of Agriculture. Following sketchy consultations with interested parties, the minister has tabled new draft regulations in Parliament, soon to become law. It appears to the RSPB that the Government intends both to relax current restrictions and to perpetuate the unsatisfactory licensing procedures.

In the past two years there has been only one prosecution in Wales for breach of existing regulations. This exemplifies the need for enforceable sanctions to protect not only the breeding birds but pasture and woodlands from over-intense or poorly managed summer burning.

The legitimate interests of all concerned with management and conservation of English and Welsh uplands could have been accommodated by creating an expert working party on the subject. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland has followed such a course, but this equitable solution has eluded the men at the ministry.

Yours faithfully,
IAN PREST, Director,
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
The Lodge,
Sandy,
Bedfordshire.

Seville thieves

From Mr Peter Webb

Sir, A note of warning should be sounded for Britons planning to visit Seville this summer. The place is infested with thieves who prey on foreign tourists.

A few days ago two friends of mine were robbed outside their hotel by motorcycle thieves who snatched the wife's handbag containing her British passport, all their money and travellers' cheques as well as other valuables. My friend's wife was dragged along the ground for about 20 yards when she tried to cling on to her handbag. As a result, my friend had to abandon a planned six-week European vacation and fly back to Britain.

At the British Consulate the next day we met a British couple who had been robbed as they drove in a rented car from Seville airport to the centre of town. The thieves threw bricks through the car window while it was stationary at a traffic light and snatched the wife's handbag containing all their money and her passport.

Consulate officials said there had been three reported robberies that morning, and that attacks on tourists had become a commonplace event which the police seemed powerless to stop.

Back at our hotel, we encountered an elderly British woman whose daughter had suffered a broken arm and leg when motorcycle thieves attempted to snatch her handbag. And when I went to examine my car parked a few yards from the hotel in the cathedral square, I found that the radio had been stolen.

As I left Seville, with the intention of never returning, I noted that the streets were full of policemen. Alas, they were not there to catch the thieves or protect the tourists but to control traffic for a visit by the King of Sweden.

Sincerely,
PETER WEBB,
Casa dos Arcos,
Ferreiros-Almusal,
Algarve, Portugal.

Post-coital pill

From Dr C. B. Goodhart

Sir, Whether or not anyone is still bothered to find out if the soul "enters" a human egg at fertilization, or at any other precise moment in time, as Professor Glanville Williams supposes (April 13), one thing is sure and this is that a biologically new human organism does come into being at fertilization.

Unfertilized eggs and spermatozoa are indeed, both human and alive, but they are different in kind from an egg after it has been fertilized, which right from the start has acquired the full potentiality to grow into an adult man or woman, and will do so unless it dies or is destroyed. And none the less so for the fact that occasionally it may split into two genetically identical twins.

It may be for politicians and lawyers to argue about what stage in its later development, if at all, it would be convenient to allow any particular human "being" full rights to its life, but if we are looking objectively for the moment when the new human organism comes biologically into being, then that is at fertilization, and neither before nor after that time.

Yours etc,
C. B. GOODHART,
Gonville & Caius College,
Cambridge,
April 13.

Pound-wise

From Mrs I. O'Mahoney

Sir, For how many minutes do I have to work to pay the Treasury official who calculates for how many minutes I have to work to pay for my milk?

Yours faithfully,
INGRID O'MAHONEY,
20 The Dale,
Wivenhoe,
Essex,
April 13.

COURT AND SOCIAL

The Queen will open the first United Kingdom factory of Nippon Electric Company at Livingston on July 4.

The Queen will attend a concert given by the Scottish National Orchestra in Edinburgh on July 4. The Queen will visit Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, to open the Kingfisher Shopping Centre on July 5.

The Duke of Gloucester will open Fitzwilliam Hospital, Peterborough, on May 12.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Derwent Centre exhibition at the Information Technology Centre, Northampton, on May 24.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit RAF Sealand, Clwyd, on May 17.

The Queen of Denmark celebrates her birthday today.

A memorial service for Dr E. W. P. Noall, Consultant Physician to Queen Mary's, Plaitow and East Ham Memorial hospitals, will be held at St John's church, Stratford, E15, on Monday, April 18, 1983, at 5.30 pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. Ashenbrenner and Miss F. Cross. The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Ashenbrenner of Kingston, Jamaica, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Reginald Cross, of Baitle, Sussex.

Mr S. D. Bush and Miss S. J. Butterell. The engagement is announced between Simon David, son of Mrs Mary Bush, Reading, Berkshire, and Sarah Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Butterell, of The Old Bakery, Dorset.

Mr M. T. Cartmell and Miss J. E. Hommert. The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. W. Cartmell, of Lytham St Anne, Lancashire, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Hommert of Clevedale, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire.

Mr C. J. Cox and Miss F. J. Neeson. The engagement is announced between Christopher James, son of Dr and Mrs E. V. Cox, of Conyngre, Woodhampton, Hampshire, and Fiona Jane, daughter of Dr and Mrs C. P. Neeson, of The Clairs House, Reigate, Surrey.

Mr M. R. Gibbons and Miss P. S. Hewett. The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Rev R. Gibbons and Mrs A. M. Gibbons, of Great Glen, Leicestershire, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Hewett, of Knighiton, Leicestershire.

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The Authorized Version gets a facelift

The Authorized Version of the Bible is alive and well: it remains in the bestseller lists after more than 350 years. Its popularity is likely to increase still further with the recent publication of a new Authorized Version that has had a discreet facelift.

The new edition aims to preserve the dignity, music and spirituality characteristic of the King James version while at the same time eliminating the archaisms, anachronisms and obscurities that prevent the seventeenth-century English from being readily comprehensible today. The success of this venture will need to be tested by time.

This gesture of confidence in the continuing value of the Authorized Version seeks to reverse the trends of the past hundred years. This is especially true for the New Testament. Since the Revised Version of 1881 (most modern English translations of the New Testament based on the original language tend to follow a Greek text that represents a completely different text from that underlying the translations of earlier centuries).

The Revised Authorized Version is therefore a reaction not only against modern Eng-

lish translations, but also against the underlying text used by recent translators. Such reaction is not unexpected. The Authorized Version has a special place in the English-speaking world, and although many find it unsuitable for academic purposes, the appropriateness of its cadences, its inspiring turns of phrase and its memorable wording so indelibly stamped on much English language and literature have given it a unique role in worship and liturgy. Ever since Dean Burgon's often intemperate attacks in the last century on attempts to promote the Revised Version the Authorized Version has had its defenders.

That there should be a resurgence of interest in the Authorized Version now is not surprising. Attempts to eclipse the Book of Common Prayer at public worship and to put in its stead modern liturgies, and efforts to replace well-loved hymn books with new hymnals deemed to be "relevant", "contemporary" and "meaningful" underestimate the esteem that the faithful - and indeed the faithless also - place in traditional aspects of church services. The plethora of modern English versions of the Bible read in churches is likewise

bewildering to the average man in the pew. Hence there is a hankering for the majestic and reassuring words of the Authorized Version.

The recent updating of the Authorized Version is, however, more than a mere matter of eliminating "thees" and "thous". There is a deliberate attempt on the part of the editors to testify in the 1980s that the text on which the Authorized Version was based is essentially reliable.

As far as the New Testament is concerned, that means that over 25 verses omitted from the Revised Version (and most subsequent versions) are restored to the text. Other longer readings relegated to the footnotes on the authority of recent Greek testaments are now back where they were in the Authorized Version. The story of the adulteress, and the longer ending to Mark are also printed (as in the Authorized Version) as part of the original text.

However justifiable may be the absence from the Bible of text-critical grounds of many of those well-established and familiar verses, their restoration in the 1980s as authentic words of scripture will be welcomed by large numbers of Christians.

Contemporaneity of liturgical

language ought on principle to attract worshippers in practice, however many find updated forms of worship a deterrent to devotion. Another paradox is that man's religious quest for the ultimate meaning of life frequently seems to drive him away from the everyday and the modern. Many Christians certainly find such escapism desirable in public worship.

The orthodox liturgies (and, until recently, the Roman and Anglican also) always reflect that timelessness, numinous and permanence so relentlessly sought after. Veneration for the language of the Authorized Version seems also to fulfill that same need to eliminate from the church the language of journalism and the supermarket.

The publication of the Revised Authorized Version is both a symptom of that urge for tradition and an attempt to rehabilitate the version that many Christians consider to be the one and only Bible.

J. K. Elliott

Department of Theology, Leeds University
The Holy Bible: The Revised Authorized Version (British Edition, 1982, Bagger) £5.95.

Fresh view on fall of empire

By Philip Howard

That world caricature, the fall of the Roman Empire, continues to exercise the thinking classes. Gibbon gave 15 principal reasons for the decline and fall, and most of them were partly true.

But do we make progress, or is ancient history in such a popular field merely a recycling of antique Roman clichés and shadow boxing in circles?

At the annual meeting of the Classical Association at Nottingham University yesterday Professor J. H. W. G. Liebeschuetz of Nottingham University, argued that each generation has to write history from its own point of view, interests, and discoveries. As in the Odyssey, Tiresias has to drink blood of the present before he is able to speak about the past.

Professor Liebeschuetz's title was "A. H. M. Jones and the Fall of the Roman Empire". He was not suggesting that he had discovered a previously unsuspected reason, and that the late and great Professor Jones was personally responsible for the decline and fall.

His huge social, economic and administrative survey of the later Roman Empire, published 20 years ago, might have been considered the last word needed on that subject until the crack of doom. It was a sort of Beveridge report on the state of the Roman Empire, and its impact on Roman historiography was like the arrival of a steel plant in a region previously given over to light industry.

But Professor Liebeschuetz argued with piety that Jones cannot, by definition, be the last view of the great question. In some matters, such as the suggestion that the empire declined because of depopulation, he has been shown to have been wrong. In local studies, for example, we have made fruitful advance by combining all the evidence, literary, epigraphic and archaeological.

In other matters we are more interested in the influence of such unmeasurable things as ideas, custom, belief and ritual. Maybe the late empire, having been unaccountably stable for three centuries, turned against militarism, as Western Europe has turned in this century.

Historians do make progress, step by step, even in fields where their evidence is necessarily limited.



An unknown work by Ingres, the most revered French academic painter of the nineteenth century, has been found in a Swiss private collection, where it was thought to be by an English artist, and only a minor Victorian picture at that (Geraldine Norman writes). The discovery of the mythological slaying (above) was made by Derek Johns of Harari and Johns, the Bond Street dealers, who are hoping to sell it for more than \$1m, or £658,000. The previous owners must have been unfamiliar with French painting because the picture is obviously from Ingres's own brush or that of a copyist. It is one of a small group of subjects which so fascinated Ingres that he returned to them again and again, painting several versions with only small adjustments of the composition. The most famous version of "Roger et Angelica" was commissioned by Louis XVIII for Versailles in 1817 and is now in the Louvre. The National Gallery has another version and there is a third, dated 1840, in the Musée Ingres in Montauban. Derek Johns believes that he has found the first version of the composition, painted in Rome before 1817.

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Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Ronald Jackson to be chairman of traffic commissioners for the South Wales, Mr Crabtree to be chairman of traffic commissioners for the Western area. Mr Jackson will continue to be chairman of traffic commissioners for South Wales. Mr Crabtree succeeds Major-General Sir John Potter.

Major R. E. A. James to be Deputy Chief Race Officer for the Royal Thames Yacht Club. Mr Graham Entwistle to be director of the London Association for the Blind in succession to Mr D. L. Osborne.

Furniture Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Furniture Makers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr J. A. Lawrence; Senior Warden, Mr Morris Leigh; Junior Warden, Mr D. B. Ecoland; Clerk, Mr Gavin Bembow.

Sale room

Murillo painting of girl sold for £378,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A Murillo painting of "A young girl raising her veil" was sold for £378,000 at Christie's yesterday. The painting, which had been in the collection of the late Sir John Galsworthy, was bought by a collector, who has agreed to sell it for £220,000. Christie's, the sale always seen as the start of the Sotheby success story.

Yesterday's price was much in line with Christie's expectations: there was no published estimate but they had suggested between £300,000 and £400,000. The young girl is painted half length, peering sideways from under her veil. The white shirt she wears under a green lace bodice is slipping revealingly over a shoulder. It has been suggested that the painting was a pendant to the "Peasant Boy" now in the National Gallery. It has certainly been cut down at some time and has belonged to a series of distinguished collectors.

Another important picture in the sale was a Rubens from the collection of the Earls of Pembroke at Wilton House, near Salisbury, which failed to find a buyer and was bought in at £220,000. Christie's had been hoping for £300,000. The picture depicts the infant Christ with the infant Saint John the Baptist and two cherubs - a collaboration between Rubens and Frans Snyder. The quartet are painted as chubby pink babies cuddling a lamb and eating grapes.

There is an almost identical version of the picture in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Potential purchasers may have felt that there would be looked on as a variant or copy of the well known picture in that famous museum and been put off.

The sale of Old Masters demonstrated a returning interest in middle quality pictures, and area badly affected by the recession. A group of seventeenth-century pictures sent for sale by a continental nobleman, whose family had owned them since before 1710, went particularly well.

A Salomon van Ruysdael "Fortified manor house" on an estuary made £66,960 (estimate £30,000 to £40,000) and a tower on the banks of a river by the same artist £29,920 (estimate £12,000 to £15,000). A sale of dolls at Christie's South Kensington included the exceptional high price of £7,800 for a bisque-headed bébé doll by Bru (estimate £4,000 to £5,000). The baby has very unusual facial features, a large nose, and a very attractive little face, which brought fierce competition from private collectors, although the doll eventually was sold to a London dealer.

The sale also contained two dolls' dresses of about 1815. One in pink and white striped cotton, 15in from neck to hem, made £170 (estimate £120 to £180), and the other, of rainbow striped silk with puff sleeves, measuring 16in, made £120 (estimate £120 to £180).

At Phillips sale in Oxford a four-square George II upholstered library chair was bought by a London dealer, for £6,930 when the auctioneer had only been expecting about £1,000.

It is a fairly standard type of chair, with foliate carved mahogany arms, carved front, side and fluted cabriole legs. The chair from a local vendor, was upholstered in red damask and in exceptionally good condition. Stair and Co. of New York, were the underbidders.

Hall The following honorary degrees will be conferred on June 2:

Mr Anthony Frank Shortrocks, research in economics at the London School of Economics, and Dr Sanjay Madhav Rao Ravi Kanbur, fellow and director of studies in economics at Clare College, Cambridge, to be professors in economics

OBITUARY

MISS ELISABETH LUTYENS

Composer of wide flexibility

Miss Elisabeth Lutyens CBE (Mrs Edward Clarke) who has died aged 74, was one of the first and most important English composers to adopt serial techniques, deriving them in particular from the example of Webern. Through many difficulties and much neglect, she won acceptance for an art that never made any intellectual compromises but that was remarkably flexible to different media, concert, opera, radio play and even horror film.

Born in 1906, a daughter of Sir Edwin Lutyens, she studied the viola and composition at the Royal College of Music and at the Paris Conservatoire. She first made her mark as a composer of music in late Romantic style, proceeding rapidly through an Expressionist phase to a realization that her true idiom lay in serial music.

Discarding thereupon some 50 early works with typical decisiveness, she began developing her mature style. She had an early success at the 1939 Warsaw ISCM Festival with a String Quartet, and already in the train on the way home she was hard at work on a String Trio that was to form part of a cycle of string chamber works.

This she followed with an impressive cycle of six chamber concertos (1939-43). During the war she wrote a wide variety of works, from serious orchestral pieces to a "Bustle for WAFFS", and this prolific output continued unabated during the post-war years.

Her works included over 200 radio scores, in collaboration with, among others, Louis MacNeice and Dylan Thomas, many chamber and concert works, including a horn concerto for Dennis Brain, an important number of choral works, in which some of her

most personal music was to be found, and an opera produced at Sadler's Wells in 1972, called *Time Off: Not the Ghost of a Chance*. Its virtuoso assemblage of literary quotations and puns was matched in music that included pop, pre-recorded tape, dance sequences and spoken passages.

A lyric drama of 1969, *Isis and Osiris* was first produced in 1976 and she had continued to compose choral and orchestral works.

Though an immensely professional composer, able to turn her hand to these and many other unusual musical tasks, she was at her most characteristic with music that engaged to the full her considerable intellectual powers. One of her most searching and beautiful works is a setting of Wittgenstein.

Her long struggle for acceptance and her ruthless independence of mind gave her a somewhat formidable aspect on first acquaintance, both musically and personally; but those who knew her soon discovered in her a passion for artistic order and personal standards, expressed with learning and wit. Troubled by the difficulty of communicating "in an age when so many have heard and so few listened", she declared that she tried to be accurate to one's thought and one's ear, without compromising or talking down, which she deplored as "inadmissible human behaviour".

A striking and publicly lonely figure, she was in private liked and admired by a wide circle of friends.

She was twice married, firstly in 1933 to Ian Herbert Campbell Glennie. This marriage was dissolved and she married, secondly in 1942, Edward Clark, the conductor. He died in 1962.

MR J. B. PENNYBACKER

Mr Joseph Buford Pennybacker, CBE, Director of the Department of Neurological Surgery at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, from 1934 to 1971, died on March 27 at Tighnabruich, Argyll, at the age of 75.

Mr John Potter writes: For more than 30 years Joe Pennybacker was an outstanding figure at the Radcliffe Infirmary, where patients, colleagues and pupils could count on his services at any hour of the day or night - services which included extraordinary diagnostic skill, fine judgment, and surgical dexterity of the highest order. He had been chosen by the first Nuffield professor of surgery at Oxford, Hugh Cairns, to come as his first assistant from the London Hospital in 1934, and after Cairns's early death in 1952, Pennybacker directed the neurosurgical department until his retirement in 1971.

His dedication to his specialty found a complementary outlet in the Society of British Neurological Surgeons of which he was successively treasurer and secretary, and foreign societies recognized his international dimension: with the award of honorary or corresponding memberships. From

the Greek government he received in 1966 the Cross of the Royal Order of George I and, in the following year, he was created CBE in the nation of his adoption.

Joe's unusual, soft and mystifying to those unaware of its origins, was a legacy - as were his courtesy and notions of good citizenship - of a Kentucky upbringing which had defied hard times. As a young man in Danville, with its monument to the pioneer surgeon, Ephraim McDowell, he was inspired by the example of that great man, who in 1819 had criticized "mechanical surgeons" who "cut and tear with fearless indifference".

McDowell had studied medicine in Edinburgh and Pennybacker determined to follow in his footsteps. This he did; and after hard times there too as a student, he graduated in 1930; but, unlike his predecessor, he did not return to America, except for short visits.

For 40 years his home was England, but for the last 11 of his life it was in the beauty and tranquility of the Scottish country of his adoption in these later years. He is survived by the son of his marriage in 1941, to Dr Winifred Dean who died in 1980.

MR J. S. SHAPIRO

Mr Jacob Samuel Shapiro, a leading designer and consultant to the aviation and engineering industries, where he was better known as Yasha Shapiro, died in London on April 13, aged 71.

A popular figure among his professional colleagues, and admired for his wit, intellectual powers and unflagging application to his work, he came to Britain from Palestine by way of wartime France, and joined a team of "boffins" working on the secret jet-engine project pioneered by Sir Frank Whittle. Most of his life as a design and development engineer was devoted to helicopter advancement for which he won the Breguet Trophy in 1978. He was a Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Born in Bialystok, Poland, on November 3, 1911, of Zionist parents who settled in Palestine in the early 1920s Shapiro was educated in Berlin and Zurich, where he took a degree in mechanical engineering, as well as studying aeronautics and theoretical physics. His first job was in an iron-foundry in Hatia, but in 1936 he joined the

British-owned Palestine Electric Corporation to work, among other projects, on their thermal power station.

In 1940 he moved to Paris, but his work there on automatic pilot and gyroscopic instruments was cut short by the Nazi invasion. Escaping to Britain, he devoted his energies to the war effort in aeronautics and acquired British nationality in 1948, while serving on the staff of the Royal Aircraft Establishment as chief technical officer of the Cierva Autogiro company. His own company - Servotek Ltd. - pioneered the co-axial contrarotating helicopter.

His work as a consultant to British and foreign companies and institutions, such as the Laing Institution in West Germany and the Boeing Vertol and Sikorsky and Bell helicopter firms, led to an interest in the harnessing of wind power and other innovations, such as new projects in security and surveillance electronics and - most recently - in "fish culture", for assisting the fishing industry by methods similar to those used in modern automated poultry breeding.

MR GEOFFREY MORLEY

Mr Geoffrey Morley, parliamentary correspondent of *The Times* at Westminster from 1947 to 1961, who has died at the age of 77, had a long and distinguished association with *The Times* and politics, beginning in October 1937, when he became one of the newspaper's parliamentary reporters, and ending when he retired early because of ill health.

Morley was a quiet, friendly, indeed charming man, whose personality reflected itself in the accurate yet vivid descriptions of the at times turbulent politics of the Commons and the Lords, which it fell to him to record.

Day and night, he caught the dramas of the post-war Labour government, the eloquence of Churchill, the parliamentary grandeur of Harold Macmillan, the unworldly of the Suez crisis in 1956. His parliamentary sketches, which he began in 1947, had the dual task not only of conveying the feelings, the moods, the anger and the laughter of both Houses, but also of reporting the highlights of what the leading politicians of the day were actually saying.

His conscientiousness knew no bounds.

When in 1961, Morley ceased to be sketch writer, he decided to remain in *The Times* Room at the Commons with the parliamentary staff for whom his reporting was just as meticulous as his sketch writing.

The affection of his colleagues was acknowledged by them in 1955, when they chose him to be chairman of the press gallery.

John Geoffrey Nicholson Morley was born at Redford, Nottinghamshire, on April 17, 1905, and attended King Edward VI School, Grantham. He was a reporter successively on the *Grantham Journal*, *Clacton Times*, *Oxford Chronicle*, *Northern Echo* and the *Press Association* before joining *The Times*. His years at Westminster were only broken from 1941 to 1945, when he was with the foreign sub-editor.

A devout man, he served his church faithfully. His hobby was painting. He leaves a widow and an adopted son.

THE ARTS

Radio

Morning glories

"What will happen to radio when breakfast television comes along?" went the cry before January 17 when *Breakfast Time* first went on the air. Would the nation forsake early morning sound and devote itself to moving pictures across the mucus in the day it attends to *Coronation Street*? Would the eyes have it? In the event, the answer has been "no", or even, in the case of one of the two new options, "not on your life", and really no one can be much surprised: getting up, preparing breakfast, and attending to the business of the day are not, at least in my family, processes which lend themselves even to a casual communion with the television set - and I have a job imagining the households in which they might.

But obviously they exist in some numbers, these households where the matriarch can hold an egg with one eye and take in Frank Bouge with the other. What was she doing before she acquired this schizotypic skill? Who, if anyone, has lost her patronage?

As usual in such matters, decisive answers do not seem to be on offer, but it is said that of the new viewers half were not previously listening to anything and the other half to Radio 2 and a local radio station. Certainly the flagship of the radio morning sequences, the *Today* programme, reports little more than a flicker in its audience - and that in the early television weeks was upwards, although by mid-March it was slightly down. However it seems fairly certain that here at least, where it would have been most worrying, the new competition has made virtually no inroads.

That this has happened may have something to do with what I claim to be the natural gross unsuitability of television to the early mornings, but it must also have a strong connection with the present buoyancy of the *Today* programme as a whole under its editor of the last 18 months, Julian Holland.

Did I say buoyancy? As followers of *Feedback* (Radio 4, Sundays and Tuesdays) will be well aware, Mr Holland is at present receiving a good deal of flak from an apparent army of listeners offended at his introduction of the Dankworth signature tune and associated

"stings", and on this evidence you would conclude that *Today* is in deep trouble. In fact the offending material occupies perhaps two minutes out of the daily 150 and the remainder is as good as it has ever been. (Incidentally, I cannot help thinking that this kind of over-reaction on the part of Radio 4 listeners - can do nothing to persuade the BBC to take them seriously when it comes, as it has and will again, to discussing such greater matters as the future of the network.)

If *Today* is in good form, this is the more marked because, if my memory serves me, two years ago it had become distinctly limp, a routine presentation job by whoever happened to be on that day's duty. There is nothing routine about it now: it covers an immense range of subject matter, briskly but without any sense of pseudo-urgency, some by means of outside reports, some by live interview. Whatever Mr Holland's intentions, the broadcasting of Parliament has at once gained coherence and reduced the risk of switching off by its inclusion in the body of the programme.

And then, of course, *Today* has the huge advantage over any of the competition of the great Timpson/Redhead double act. Without wishing to undervalue Peter Hobday, who is sounding more and more at ease as the latest third presenter, I must say that the programme's jollity, style, wit and many other appetizing qualities are at their best on the three mornings each week when his two long-serving colleagues are in tandem. Each sparks the other off, each sounds immensely interested in what he is doing and possesses that rare ability in a broadcaster to address his listeners as if there were no microphone.

It is part of the attraction of any good thing that one fears its loss: so we may wonder nervously what will happen to *Today* if Timpson and/or Redhead should get fed up and withdraw. Such talents are not easily replaceable - as the roll call of *Today* presenters bears witness. In the meantime, perhaps we should appreciate them and their works and forewarn our miserable moaning over such a very little morning music.

David Wade

Interview

Throwing the West End a lifeline from the Provinces

It was David Gilmore who saw the potential of the improbable project of staging *Daisy Pulls It Out*, Denise Deegan's version of an Angela Brazil novel, which opens at the Globe on Monday. The script was among the dozens with which he is deluged as Artistic Director of Southampton's Nuffield Theatre. One day he decided to have a "blitz" - a process which involves rejecting virtually all the earnestly constructed plays - and he came across *Daisy*. "I could tell immediately that I knew before I finished it that I was going to do it. It was the style - a mixture of absolute sincerity with a heightened playing style which could allow you to have the audience laughing at the corniness of it on one hand then wiping away a tear with the other. The tightrope down the middle is sincerity, and fidelity to that genre of schoolgirl novels. You don't have to send it up, you just play it to the hilt."

This is Gilmore's second assault on the West End, following *Nuts*, which brought in more critical acclaim than money but did at least signal to the London managements that the Nuffield was alive and capable. It was the national critical response to the original Southampton production of *Daisy* that brought down the impresarios, and it was Andrew Lloyd Webber who was quickest to sign it up.

"His was the one management to say: 'We'll take this show as it is'. So often the provincial company, which takes the risks initially by doing the show, loses when it comes to London. Not because they're not good enough but because people think they can make a more attractive package for London. Fortunately the evidence seems to be that the situation is changing. *Another Country* and the Dario Fo plays give the lie to the idea that you must have a name to have a successful West End show."

Indeed, as Gilmore points out, the provincial theatre seems to be in the process of reviving the West End stage off its own bat. A few doors away from *Daisy* there are *Another Country* from Greenwich and productions from Liverpool Playhouse and the Palace Theatre, Watford. His own part in the revival stems from the policy he has evolved in his three years at Southampton.

The Nuffield is a somewhat hybrid theatre financed by the university, the city, the county and the regional arts association. That variety of paymasters and its position on a university campus means that he has had to work at a highly varied repertoire. Gilmore started in theatre as a result of General Studies - the subject with which schools attempt to create renaissance men. He was all set to study psychology until a master suggested he acquire experience of something entirely different. He took some casual labour at the rep in Cheltenham and never looked back. For 10 years he acted in various rep until it dawned on him that something was not quite right.

"What I discovered was that I was not getting the buzz out of actually going on the stage every night. I realized that when I saw actors who were really existing, the greatest thing in their lives was to go out on the stage in front of 500 or a thousand people. I didn't get that. I actually enjoyed the rehearsals best." So he moved into directing and, via the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, and the Watermill, Newbury, to the Nuffield. And that, for the time being, seems to be where he stays.

"If I ever felt I was repeating myself, or some obstacles or hassles were getting in the way of the excitement, then it would be time to look around, but at the moment I'm very happy. What I want to do is to keep finding good new, exciting plays - I don't know whether that would lead me into subsidized companies or the commercial world. I like the demands of the commercial theatre."

Those demands now include West End opening nerves on Monday. Though well received at the Nuffield, it is clear that *Daisy* has a slightly puzzling air as far as the critics are concerned.

"The central girl is truthful and honest and tries hard while mixing obstacles all the way along the line. But finally she wins through. That's all you're supposed to feel but the critics tend to need more than that - they're looking for a social tag or a political tag or whatever."

Bryan Appleyard

Christopher Worman writes on the background to *Daisy Pulls It Out* on Page 5 of Saturday.

Theatre

Some failures of sensitivity

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Lyttelton

One brilliant idea distinguishes Bill Bryden's *Dream*, newly transferred from the Cottesloe's fluid seating arrangements to the Lyttelton's more arch stage. As against the Edwardian dress of the Athenians - yes, collars and cuffs in this play again - the fairies and their monarchs inhabit a different world in time, wearing Elizabethan ruffs and doublets of a ghostly greenish-grey and dancing weirdly beautiful pavanes.

Shock-headed and hollow-eyed, they seem to carry with them ages of knowledge, and suffering too perhaps, which shame the moderns' ephemeral passions. None more so than Jack Shepherd's Puck, clearly modelled on the loony who enters in *Diocletian*. All his comic resource and agility gets a following as he dashes about the stage, contriving echoes to his own cries, improvising a forest of birds with a single pipe and doing deadly imitations of the two principal boys.

For the rest, much of the casting (the lovers especially) is very indifferent and, as in many productions, the dialogue's delicate suspension of poetry, fancy and absurdity ruthlessly reveals every failure of sensitivity in the speakers.

The play survives, as it also

survived the last Stratford/Babican production by the RSC, but that is little cause for congratulation.

Robert Stephens, who has replaced Paul Scofield as Oberon, fits smoothly into the production as a voluptuous, mischievous grandee, and Susan Fleetwood's gloriously sensuous Titania is as electric a counterpart to him as Beatrice to Benedick.

The red autumnal leaves with which the stage is strewn are her favourite playthings, turning into a shower of rose petals to scatter over the snoring sex's snout that the props department has made for Bottom (Derek Newark).

The mechanicals, in fact, are anything but rude; bowler-hatted and in Sunday best, they know their place, making the musicians' opening music-hall song (the one that says you can see the 'Ackney marshes if it wasn't for the alphas in between) seem the irrelevance it is, but then productions of this play do often turn into a ragbag of assorted funnies.

Mr Newark does all the usual Pyramus business with his wooden sword; he and the irrepressible Tony Haygarth (who, one snout by name, presents the Wall) get a fine double act going, but it does not last. It was good of Puck to say that "if you pardon, we will mend", but I could not honestly tell him where to start.

Anthony Masters



Robert Stephens as Oberon: voluptuous and mischievous

Concerts

Marc Raubenheimer
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Marc Raubenheimer, the young South African pianist who made his London debut in 1978 and has been scooping up prizes from international competitions before and since the event, remains something of a puzzling musician. The dichotomy within his virtuosity showed itself at the South Bank on Thursday in readings of Haydn and Chopin which ranged from the uneven to the aimless, and performances of Dutilleul and Prokofiev that were vivid and compelling in both imagination and execution.

His technique, fluent, wide-ranging and strongly integrated, can be taken as read. The discrepancies in performance seem to be the result of a musical sensibility which is formed first from the very closeness of his relationship to the piano and its acoustic properties; rather than from a sturdily nurtured interpretative intelligence which is then realized through the keyboard.

His Haydn C minor sonata (Hob XVI 20), for example, was a compendium of admirably calculated and executed pianistic ideas. They were often beautiful to observe as they passed, one by one, but lacked a

sense of existing out of necessity and as part of a broader purpose.

The Dutilleul sonata, on the other hand, seemed to find its character, even its structural sense, from Mr Raubenheimer's sensitivity to a wide spectrum of tone and texture, brought to life and made lucid through remarkably supple fingers and strong arms. The piquant harmonic flavouring of the second movement's developing material was delicately and confidently drawn out.

Prokofiev's *Sarcophagi*, too, were perfectly suited to Mr Raubenheimer's talents. Their irony, anger and audacity were drummed out with dynamic timing and a telling breadth of tone of voice even at fortissimo.

And so to the Chopin B minor sonata. Despite a compelling slow movement and powerful finale, it tended to be played as if it consisted primarily of sound (however minutely varied) and fury - with the inevitable result, Mr Raubenheimer's own considerable repertoire of technical means and acoustic perception still needs to be fed into the repertoire of each composer's particular language, in order that his performances be substantiated by adequate interpretative fibre.

Hilary Finch

Television

Powerful parable

Ten years ago a friend teaching at a London further education college invited me to eavesdrop on a rehearsal for a student production of that hardly annual *The Insect Play*. The general standard of acting was no higher than you would expect (most of the adolescent actors would not even make it to drama school). But the occasion was electric because of the boy in the central role: a certain Timothy Spall.

There was nothing mediocre about last night's production of *Guests of the Nation* (BBC 1), Frank O'Connor's story in a searing adaptation by Maurice Leitch, but here Spall's function was exactly the same: he bound things together with a magnetism which, considering the banal predictability of his part, was little short of extraordinary.

Two English soldiers were taken captive in a remote village by Irish freedom fighters (class of 1920, many rungs higher on the evolutionary ladder than the Provos of today). As time passed the captives (notably the earthy and cynical prisoner played by Spall) turned their nervous, careworn captors into old friends, and then the secret message came: first that the Englishmen were hostages, then that, as a reprisal, they must be shot.

There was nothing mysterious about the script: the characterization was straightforward, the dialogue terse. But the power of this 50-minute parable, applicable at all times

to little local wars all over the globe, was such as to leave one stunned, as though, after assisting at an inconceivable atrocity, under Donald McWhinnie's subtle direction, and the spectacle would have been unbearable: any longer and the tension would have been unbearable. It may have been a mere short story shot in a studio, but it was drama of a kind which shows up the bulk of the BBC's current dramatic output.

Last week *The London Programme* (LWT) offered an unpleasant but salutary glimpse through the windows of a VD clinic. This week it went on a light-hearted tour of local politics in the People's Republic of Islington. As a citizen of that republic I can vouch for the accuracy of its reflection of the views of the populace. Islington's Labour rulers blame the "Tory press" for the contempt in which they are now held by their subjects; they are one-third right and, as this intelligent programme showed, two-thirds disastrously wrong.

The root of the trouble, as everybody said, lies in the councilors' ranting, humourless unanimity. Their commendable new housing policies and their imaginative environmental plans are regularly upstaged by idiotic political gestures. Are this lot capable of learning from recent events in Bernadette? Almost certainly not.

Michael Church

WEEKEND CHOICE

Either by happy coincidence or through inter-channel rivalry, both BBC1 and Channel 4 launch an A-to-Z type musical series tomorrow night. Fortunately, domestic discord has been avoided by scheduling them at different times. Compared to Channel 4's *Music in Time* (7.15pm), which will run for 16 weeks and consume about 800 minutes of screen time, the BBC's *Orchestra* (10.55pm) will span a mere six weeks and gobble up 180 minutes. Judging by the first episode of each series, the duplication of effort will be minimal.

Victor Poole's films for the BBC, briskly fronted by Jane Glover, who not only explains things but waves the baton and also conducts from the harpichord, have a comparatively modest brief: to chart the evolution of the modern symphony orchestra. Episode one begins with wintry waits warmed by an Oxford brazier and ends with Monteverdi's *Tancredi* and Corinda, cosily performed indoors in Surrey's Clendon Park.

Derek Bailey's Channel 4 series is altogether more spectacular and wider-ranging: nothing less than the history and development of western music

from the year dot. It gets off to a breathtakingly audacious start by flashing backwards through time (like the whirling metronome in the opening titles) from electronic Ligeti to blasts from a horn found at Pompeii. And, as well as the sound of music, it explores the music of sound: from baby's first cry to the ecstatic apogee of American hot gospel song. Sadly, episode one degenerates into a protracted trailer for the 15 episodes still to come.

Radio highlights: Radio 3's Spanish Month continues to delight and excite. Complementing last Sunday's epic reworking of *Don Quixote* by John Arden, there is Robin Chapman's *The Duchess's Diary* (tomorrow, 7.30pm), a monologue in which a noblewoman, unbalanced by what she believes to be an act of appalling betrayal by Cervantes, her one-time confidant and idol, embarks on a voyage through choppy seas. Maureen O'Brien never puts a foot wrong in a role any actress would give her eye-teeth to play... *The Music of Spain* (today, 2.00pm) offers three hours of marvellous colour from the pens of, inter alia, Granados, Albeniz, Falla and Arriaga.

Peter Daville

Dance

Boldness rewarded

The Winter Play
Hippodrome,
Birmingham

The king must die: we know that, so there is no surprise in the ending of Jonathan Burrows' new work for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, yet he retains tension and interest. The means he uses are so diverse that the unity of the piece is remarkable; so is the excitement he distils from a mixture of old myth, the tradition of the mummery plays, English folk and popular dances and straight ballet.

The Winter Play is mainly for male dancers, the women are little more than bait and decoration, and the scenes with

them fall flat compared with what happens before and after. Burrows has been bold but justified in casting David Yow, in his first professional season, as the new leader. His challenge to Carl Myers, the old leader, begins with highly competitive solos, goes on to an unusually realistic danced fight, and reaches the ritual killing as climax of a masked sword dance.

Yow survives with enough stamina to celebrate his victory in properly cheerful style before showing that he can match Myers' earlier alarm and desperate defence when Nicholas Ringham in turn establishes himself as the confident next challenger.

An extraordinary performance provides an unexpected interlude. After the old king's death, David Bingley emerges climbing a ladder from the orchestra pit. Dressed in black, with high hat and a big black bag, he is perhaps a physician unfrocked for ineptitude. His tap dance around and over the corpse seems to confirm a comic intent, but not for nothing does he somewhat resemble a voodoo god: horror joins force when he transfers the old leader's spirit to his successor.

It is gratifying to see Burrows, whose inventiveness and originality were never in doubt, find a strong and theatrical use for his gifts. Rewarding too, that the Royal Ballet School's folk-dancing classes at last find a real purpose on stage. That early grounding must help explain the quiet authority of all the men's performances.

Burrows and his co-producer Ronald Smedley are strongly supported by the score, partly original, partly arranged from folk and popular melodies, by Dudley Simpson. His early experience as a ballet conductor before becoming a successful television composer (*Dr Who* among other credits) serves him in good stead.

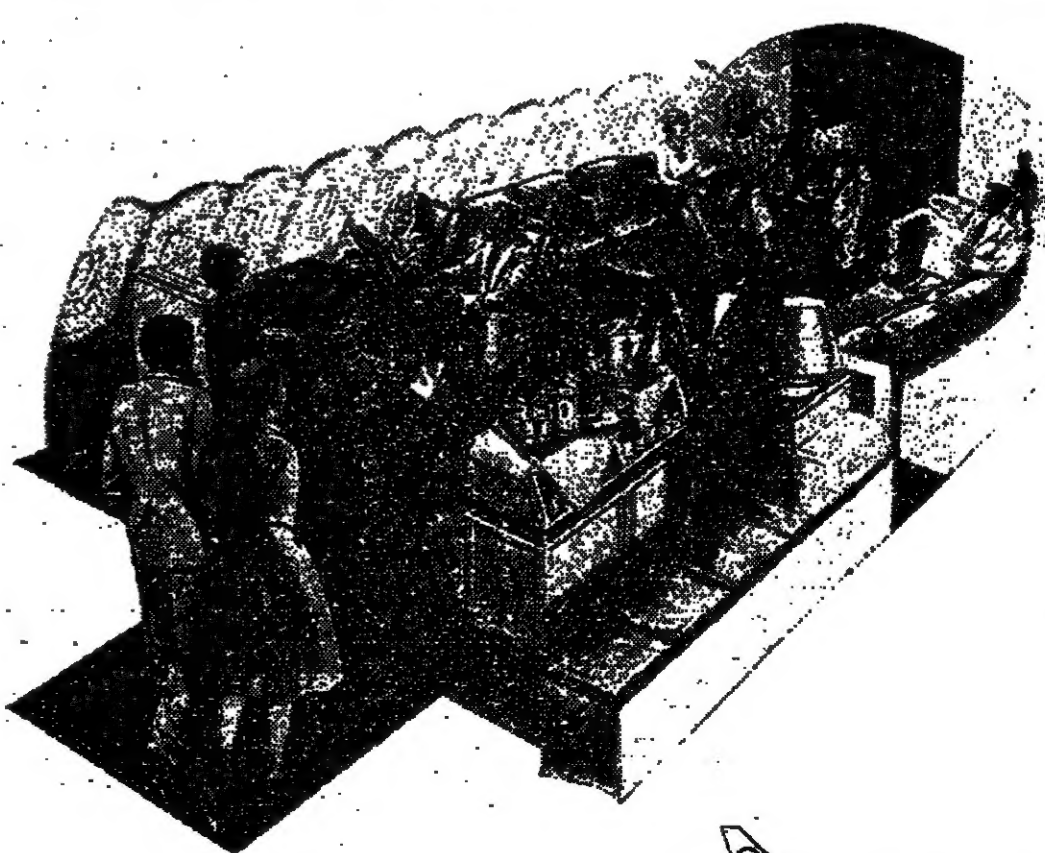
Jan Spurling's clothes for the men ingeniously combine tradition and present times: the women's are merely old, but Spurling's curtains depicting a tree god have a sly menace.

John Percival



David Bingley as the doctor: extraordinary

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 695.5, up 6.8
FT 100 Index 82.9, up 0.02
FT All Share 439.52, up 3.82
Barrington 27,085
TSE 100 Index 172.4, up 1.2
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Average 8,552.16, down 2.05
Hong Kong Hang Seng Indv
Index 1,067.14, down 0.22
New York Dow Jones Aver-
age (midday, 1,106.99, up 1.74

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5480, up 75pts
DM 2.4385, up 0.5
DM 3.7775
Fr 11.3150
Yen 367.00
Dollars
Index 122.5, down 0.2
DM 2.4385, down 10pts
Gold \$435.50, down \$0.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5470

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rate 10
3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month Fr 5 1/4-5 1/2
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period March 2 to April 5,
1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Sovereign Oil 234p, up 85p
Thorpe 57p, up 12p
Petrol 58p, up 10p
Willesley 58p, up 10p
Mettay 45p, up 7p
Chimbo & Hill 47p, up 7p
Saxon Oil 155p, down 31p
Im. Bus Systs 228p, down 35p
TSL Thermal 53p, down 5p
Automotive Pd 27p, down 4p
Snla Viscos 38p, down 4p
Stanisco 48p, down 5p

Dreamland
court action

Proceedings have been instituted in the Industrial Tribunal Court by Mr John Combes, the former managing director of Dreamland Electrical Appliances. The company is defending the action.

Mr Combes has been dismissed from his executive role, but remains on the board.

The news comes just a week after Dreamland announced a return to profit in 1982, at £56,000 after a half-time loss of £704,000.

● **SOTHEBY'S SLIPS:** The price of Sotheby's Paris Bernart shares slid 12p to 508p yesterday as hopes faded that it would find a suitor prepared to bid more than the 502p in cash already being offered by two New York financiers and art collectors.

● **TRACTOR SALES:** New tractor registrations were 18 per cent higher in the first three months of this year than in the corresponding period last year, the Agricultural Engineers Association said yesterday.

Sales are now running at an annual rate of more than 28,000 units, a quarter more than two years ago.

● **FRENCH STAKE:** Midland Bank is restructuring its French operations around a new company, Midland Bank SA, in which it will have an 85 per cent stake. Midland Bank SA will then issue FF 200m (£17.7m) convertible loan stock to allow scope for expansion.

● **RESCUE PLAN:** The rescue plan for Wellman has been approved by shareholders who are subscribing for new convertible preference shares.

● **TOYOTA DROP:** Toyota Motor Corporation said its vehicle exports in the year to March 31 fell one per cent to a rounded 1.66 million from 1981.

● **HOTELS SALE:** Six London hotels have been put up for sale by Grand Metropolitan, the hotels, drink and leisure group. They are the Piccadilly Hotel, the St Ermin's Hotel, the Chesterfield Hotel, the Kennedy Hotel, the Clifton Ford Hotel and the Mount Royal.

● **MASSIVE DEBT:** Italy's state owned group IRI (Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale) last year incurred debts amounting to £16,135m. The servicing of this massive debt takes up 17 per cent of turnover, compared to 3.6 per cent for private firms. Signor Romano Prodi, the chairman, gave these figures when he appeared before parliament's commission for state-owned industry.

Dow up
slightly
in brisk
trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones)—Stocks advanced slowly in active trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose four points to above 1169 and gainers were more than seven to five ahead of decliners.

International Business Machines was unchanged at 109 1/2. General Motors was off 1/2 at 108 1/2. American Telephone & Telegraph rose 1/2 at 65 1/2. Merck was unchanged at 82 1/2. Atlantic Richfield up 1/2 to 44 1/2.

Digital Equipment, at 125 1/2, was up 1/2. Exxon at 33 was unchanged. Minnesota Mining at 79 1/2 was off 1/2. Teledyne at 147 1/2, up 1/2. Texas Instruments at 163 1/2 was off 1/2. Motorola at 111 1/2, up 1/2. Lockheed 112 1/2, was down 1/2. American Express at 68 was up 1/2 and International Paper at 51 1/2 was off 1/2.

Mr Monahan Dodd analyst for E. F. Hutton said the market was "still working higher but concern is rising because of the long stretch of advances."

He added: "We've had six days in a row on the upside—the longest such stretch since the bull market began last August. And further the advances started after the market was down for four days in a row—which was the longest downside stretch."

"Volume continues fairly good and there are no divergences left which could mean added life for the up-phase," he said.

Meanwhile, the profits last year of Fortune magazine's top 500 companies fell a record 27.1 per cent from their 1981 levels in the largest earnings dip in the 20-year history of its listing of America's leading industries.

Oil companies continued to dominate the top spots on the list, with Exxon retaining its number one ranking, despite a \$10,000m (£6,493m) fall in sales to below \$100,000m.

UK asked to
justify
Hyster aid

The Common Market Commission has asked Britain to justify nearly £20m planned investment in the Hyster fork lift truck plant in Scotland.

The Commission is concerned that some of the aid may be in breach of EEC rules on free competition. It has given Britain four weeks to provide details of the plan.

Proceedings, begun yesterday with a message to Britain demanding information. This effectively blocks all cash injections to the plant in Irvine until the Commission rules on the validity of £10m for vocational training and a further £9,520,000 in the form of a direct investment grant.

A Commission spokesman said the investment spending might be in order, but there was concern at the scale of planned spending on training.

The procedure could take months to complete, but if the Commission does block the investment in Hyster, Britain can take the Commission to court.

Meanwhile, the French Government has been given four weeks to justify its £4m state spending in the Times plant at Besancon.

Britain has already raised the issue with the Commission because of cuts at the Times plant in Dundee.

Workers at the Scottish Times plant are still staging a sit-in in protest at the loss of 1,500 jobs. They claim the production of a revolutionary three-dimensional camera which is to begin at the French plant could equally well be carried out in Dundee.

The Commission wants to know the social and economic situation in the Besancon region before assessing the justification for national aid.

● **THE EEC Commission** will press ahead with the next stage of tobacco tax harmonization despite the vigorous and sustained opposition of the European parliament. There were protests from both the Conservative and Labour MEPs yesterday when it was disclosed.

A rift between members of the Benn family, which includes Mr Tony Benn, the Labour politician, has opened the way for an £11m takeover bid for Benn Brothers, the family publishing company, by United Newspapers.

The United Newspapers offer of seven shares in United for every ten shares in Benn values the Benn ordinary shares at 149p each, while a cash alternative arranged by merchant bankers Samuel Montagu values each Benn share at 143.5p.

The bid was made possible when United Newspapers, which publishes *Punch* magazine, and a chain of provincial newspapers, acquired a 13 per cent stake in Benn Brothers

By Michael Prest
Britain is leading the world out of recession, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, claimed yesterday, as new figures showed that industrial production in Britain and America is rising while inflation is falling.

Britain's industrial production rose 1.1 per cent in February after gaining 0.3 per cent in January. The latest three-months index of industrial production was 1.5 per cent higher, and the manufacturing index 1 per cent higher, than in the previous three months.

These figures encouraged Mr Brittan to tell a London conference: "Those who repeatedly urge us to lead the world out of recession should realize that we are already doing so."

But over a longer period, the British production figures point to the importance of oil and gas and the problems of the manufacturing sector. The whole index, which reached 103.6 (1975 = 100) in February, was 2 1/2 per cent above a year ago, whereas manufacturing production was unchanged over 12 months.

Oil and gas production by contrast grew by 2 1/2 per cent in the quarter and has expanded by 17 per cent over the year. Indeed, manufacturing output actually fell last month, but officials regard the decline as a freak.

£14m loss at components group

By Andrew Cornall
Automotive Products, the West Midlands motor components manufacturer, produced dismal results for 1982 yesterday, which were dramatically below City expectations. The group, which makes clutches, brakes, gearboxes and steering equipment, suffered a sharp downturn in orders for spare parts in the second half of the year which helped contribute towards pretax losses of £14.1m, against losses of £2.2m in 1981.

Reorganization and redundancy costs of £4.5m were also included in the figures in a bid to wipe the slate clean. The workforce was cut by 1,200 to 8,300 people during the year.

The board passed the dividend after paying 0.5p at the interim stage against last year's total dividends of 3p.

However, Mr George Pears, the chairman, said that there are some hesitant signs of increasing demand in the United States and Europe, and that the board would be able to take a view on whether to resume payment of the dividend when the interim figures are reported in September.

But with City analysts expecting losses in the region of £3m to £6m, the results were a nasty reminder of the problems in the manufacturing sector of industry. The shares were down by 4p at 27p on the day, reflecting analysts' unease about prospects for the company.

The losses helped to swell group borrowings from £240.7m to £254.5m during the year, which means that group borrowings have risen to 62 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Mr Pears said that although the company is always in close contact with its bankers, there are no problems which the existing management cannot handle. "We feel we have done the nasty work now," he said. The success of last year's rationalization is already beginning to show through. The company managed to produce a small pretax profit in the first quarter of this year. Continuing efforts to control costs and cut stocks will help reduce borrowings.

Group turnover of £203m for 1982 against £201m the previous year should increase again this year as demand for AP's products increases.

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Industrial production up 1.1 per cent in February

UK leading world out of recession
says Treasury minister

Broken down by sector, metal manufacturing rose by 5 per cent between the two most recent three-months period. Food, drink and tobacco gained 3 per cent, chemicals, coal and petroleum products 2 1/2 per cent, and other manufacturing 1 per cent.

Officials point out that the long-term decline of British Manufacturing industry, which began in the early 1970s, is continuing, relative to other

sectors despite the apparent recovery.

The index of per capital gross domestic product in the West Midlands, for instance, fell from 102.8 in 1971 to 90.6 a decade later.

But Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday reiterated the Government's view that devaluation was not a solution. While admitting that encouraging greater exchange rate stability was a desirable and legitimate objective he said: "The crucial precondition is that economic prospects and policies in the world's major economies should come closer together, and that all countries should maintain progress in reducing inflation."

Another cause for caution in the manufacturing sector is the weakness for demand for investment goods.

US output rises
for fourth month

US industrial output rose a healthy 1.1 per cent last month, despite a sharp drop in car production, which was offset by important gains in the output of consumer-related industries.

It was the fourth consecutive monthly gain in national output and came after a rise of only 0.3 per cent in this key indicator during February, the US Federal Board said yesterday.

Perhaps more significant,

was the 0.1 per cent drop in wholesale prices last month, which resulted in an overall decline in prices for the first quarter of the year of 4.1 per cent, the best three-month performance since 1952.

The labour department report on producer prices bolstered economists' predictions that inflation at the wholesale level will drop less than 1 per cent for 1983.

This would be the best showing since the mid-1960s, labour department economists said.

A key factor in holding down prices last month was a sharp drop in oil prices which resulted in an overall decline for energy prices of 3.2 per cent. This occurred despite continuing increases in natural gas prices, which rose 2.5 per cent last month, on top of a rise in February of 3.2 per cent.

Administration officials said wholesale prices have not fallen for a full calendar quarter since 1976.

The drop in motor industry output, which has been a key factor in pushing up national production in recent months, had been expected and is not likely to continue in coming months, officials said.

Despite the good news, however, output at the nation's factories, mines and electric utilities was still 1.8 per cent below a year earlier.

Hawley grabs stake
in Miss World

By Jonathan Clare
Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley Group has snapped up 14.99 per cent of the Miss World Group, less than 24 hours after the glamour company was brought to the Unlisted Securities Market by Mr Eric Morley and his wife Julia.

But with more than 50 per cent of Miss World's shares in the Morleys' hands, Mr Ashcroft cannot bid and win control. He paid between 60p and 130p for the shares when dealings started on Thursday and yesterday morning.

Since his involvement in the Dowable consortium's bid for Cope Allman International, Mr Ashcroft has been keeping an uncharacteristically low profile,

and neither Miss World nor Hawley's brokers, Capel-Cure Myers, were able to divine his intentions.

Mr Ashcroft's appearance as a large minority shareholder caught the new company at an awkward moment with Mr Morley in Scotland for a beauty contest. But Miss World's finance director, Mr Rhodri Jones, seconded from Belhaven, said Mr Ashcroft had told him it was a "benign investment".

Any issue of shares by Miss World to expand—which is likely because it is now only a one product business—would dilute the Morleys' stake and allow Mr Ashcroft to move in.

Not that Bassishaw's advisers, NM Rothschild and Barclays Merchant Bank, have done much better. Bassishaw declared its 130p offer its final bid so it could go and buy in the market. Someone misjudged Hanson's strength of purpose and did not expect it to offer 133 1/2p in cash.

Perhaps it is no coincidence that Hanson is winning the game, just its advisers, Schroder Wagg, have kept very quiet and maintained a very low profile.

Pleasurama argues
for casinos merger

By Jeremy Warner
Pleasurama has begun to subject the Office of Fair Trading to a barrage of arguments on why its planned merger with rival casino and leisure group Trident Television should not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for investigation.

The lobby comes after mounting speculation in the stock market that the addition of Pleasurama's 13 provincial casinos and one London casino to Trident's four casinos in the capital, virtually guarantees a reference. This fear is reflected in Trident's share price, which at 93p is now 22p adrift of the value of Pleasurama's shares and cash bid.

Pleasurama has pointed out, however, that even after merging, its claim on the total number of London casino players will still be less than 17 per cent, according to the latest Gaming Board figures.

Even if it controlled the two London casinos managed by Grand Metropolitan in which it has a 25 per cent interest, its share of London players would be below 25 per cent.

More than anything, it is the Grand Met connexion which has sparked talk of a reference. Grand Met is Britain's largest casino operator and already has a sizable shareholding in Pleasurama.

Pleasurama has also argued that the Gaming Act already precludes competition among individual casinos. This makes the structure of casino ownership irrelevant, the company says.

The first signs of a shortage of oil stocks have appeared in parts of Europe and the United States, suggesting that oil demand and prices may finally be firming up, Sir Peter Baxendale, chairman of Shell, said yesterday.

What happened to oil stocks was critical to the success or failure of Opec's attempts to hold falling oil prices around its new lower market price of \$29 a barrel, he told an energy conference.

There had been a tremendous amount of destocking in the early months of this year, reflecting the expectation of oil companies and consumers that prices were going to fall. But now, Sir Peter said, "perceptions seem to be changing all round the world".

Destocking had come to an end eventually, and when it did it would add as much as 4 million barrels a day to world demand, most of it for oil from Opec. In the last few days the first minor stock gaps had appeared in Europe, and shortages of gasoline stocks had also developed in the United States.

Oil prices are firming,
Shell chief says

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent
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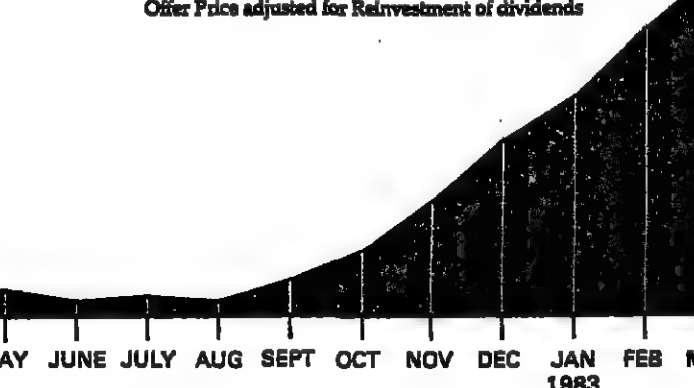
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THE GT GROUP

Unlisted Securities Market

Miss World tests sceptics

For the first time this week you could buy a stake in Miss World.

About 47 per cent of Mr Eric Morley's beauty competition company was floated on the Unlisted Securities Market (USM), and the shares soared from 60p to 133p on the first day of dealings.

The spectacular launch of the stock poses yet another challenge to the sceptics, who believe that the popularity of a number of USM companies will be short lived. Small investors are a lot less cynical than many City institutions when it comes to the USM. They are keen to benefit from the substantial rise in share prices that is occurring in the Stock Exchange's nursery market which is now nearly two and a half years old.

But many small investors just do not have the capital to build up a reasonable USM portfolio on their own. So what can the institutions provide in the way of managed funds? Precious little at the moment.

Well over a year ago the Department of Trade increased the 5 per cent ceiling on unit trust investments in unquoted companies to 20 per cent of assets in the USM and 5 per cent in the over-the-counter market. But there has been no rush by fund managers to take advantage of the new rules.

Mr Richard Smith of Henderson is particularly concerned about marketability. He recalls the security alarm company Munford & White, which had an unpopular patch shortly after its launch last year. "It was difficult to deal", he said.

Henderson has not felt the need to raise the 5 per cent limit on its unit trusts so far, although Lowland Investment, (an investment trust which also manages) has between 5 and 6 per cent of its portfolio in USM stocks.

Save & Prosper is cautious about the USM too. Its relaunched Smaller Companies Fund can invest up to the 25 per cent ceiling, but fund manager Mr John Shelley says that he has not bought a single USM stock yet for the £15m fund.

His colleague, Mr Stephen Hargreaves, voices a common feeling: "We tend to avoid the USM, you're at the mercy of the speculators; there's the marketability problem and our funds do have income needs and so many USM stocks don't pay decent dividends."

However, S & P do have an offshore, Jersey based UK Growth Fund, worth £3m, which has about 10 per cent invested in the USM, and the speculative stock Bio-Isolates



accounts for over 4 per cent of the portfolio.

The fund with the greatest USM content is Britannia's Unlisted Securities Market Fund, also Jersey-based, which is 75 per cent invested in USM stocks authorised unit trusts, neither of these funds is restricted to the 25 per cent limit.

Most of the growth in the Britannia fund, which is set up in October 1981, has come in the last 12 months, with a 48 per cent rise in value.

Mr Ian Forsyth, adviser to the trust, says that since the public has become aware of the strength of the USM in the last six months, the inflow of funds has been enormous. The fund is now worth nearly £5m and has over 1,200 unit holders.

He claims that his experience in buying and selling shares has so far been quite tolerable and he thinks that fellow fund managers exaggerate the difficulties.

His attitude is very different from that of Henderson's UK investment chief, Mr Christopher Clarke. "We want to see how the USM develops."

Mr Adrian Collins of Gartmore, share Mr Clarke's caution. One Gartmore fund, UK Smaller Companies, has raised its limit, but he says "We want the USM to gain maturity."

Mr James Caulfield, investment manager at M & G says its Smaller Companies Fund has raised its limit. USM exposure is 4 per cent of the £27m fund. He does not think it will go up to the limit, but there will certainly be increase.

Perhaps the attitude will change once the Department of Trade sees fit to allow an authorised USM unit trust. The success of Britannia will be an important barometer if other fund managers are to widen the market for the small investor.

Hilaire Gomer

Eurocheques

A cash alternative for travellers

Your domestic cheque guarantee card will not be valid from May 1 outside the United Kingdom; and if you want to draw on your current account while you are in Europe, the Near East or North Africa you will have to make other arrangements.

If you bank with the Midland or one of its subsidiaries, that involves asking for uniform Eurocheques and a uniform Eurocheque guarantee card (you will have to pay £3.50 for the latter). Uniform Eurocheques can be used in banks, hotels and retailers displaying the Eurocheque sign, in Europe and the Mediterranean countries.

You write out your cheque in the local currency, and it is subsequently converted to sterling and debited to your account at home. It is an ingeniously simple system, though you do not have control over the currency conversion rate and it is relatively expensive (28p a cheque, plus 1 1/2 per cent of the face value when the cheque is drawn outside the UK. A £75 cheque would therefore cost you approximately £11).

If you have an account with one of the other banks, you will have to ask for a cheque guarantee card that is valid in Europe. You can use this to back your domestic cheques,

drawn in sterling, in European banks displaying the EC sign (but not in hotels or retailers). As with the uniform Eurocheque, your account at home will eventually be debited with your withdrawal; but in this case you can see for yourself the rate at which the conversion is being made.

If you are going further afield, you will need travellers' cheques. In that case there are certain things to be born in mind.

● In most countries it does not matter what denomination you use; but if you are going to the United States there is no point in taking anything other than the dollar.

● Most American banks have no experience of making currency translations and will simply refuse to do it.

● Remember that you pay for travellers' cheques when you take delivery of them, rather

than when (or after) you use them to pay for things. This means that there is no point in ordering them too far in advance. Nor is there any point in hanging on to them after your travel is over.

It is true that you will save yourself the one per cent commission that you would otherwise have to pay next time you bought; but you could probably earn far more than that if you cash them in.

● Do remember to sign the cheques (once) before you leave the office where you bought them. And don't keep the sales advice (giving their numbers) in the same handbag or hip pocket.

Adrienne Gleeson

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account - no interest paid.
Deposit accounts - Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 1/2 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Monthly income account Natwest 8 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits - £2,500-£25,000 - 1 month 9.25 per cent, 3 and 6 months 9 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Money funds
Seven-day deposits. Simco 7-day fund - 10.18 per cent. UDT Average Rate Deposits - 10 1/2 per cent. Simco dollar fund - 7.80 per cent. Western Trust one month Money-market a/c 9.75 per cent. Malinthal 10.1 per cent. Tyndall 7-day fund 10.25 per cent. Save and Prosper high interest a/c 10.65 per cent. Interest paid without deduction of tax. Tullet & Riley Money market Trust Call Fund - min £10,000 10.31 per cent. 7-day fund - £2,500-10.34 per cent. Further details from: Simco 01-235 0233. UDT 01-823 3020. Tyndall 0272 732241. Western Trust 0752 261161. Malinthal 01-499 6834. Save and Prosper 0708 68966. Tullet & Riley 238 0852.

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts - interest 3 per cent or 6 per cent if £500 is maintained, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account - 10 1/2 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 25th issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax; equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.51 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £5,000 reducing to £2,000 from 3 May - max. £200,000. Interest - 11 per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1983 paid to investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in April 1978, £175.73 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax.

higher rate taxpayers may have a further facility on maturity. 2 years General Portfolio 8 per cent min investment £1,000. 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent min investment £1,000. 4 years General Portfolio 9-11.5 per cent min investment £1,000. 5 years Canterbury Life 9 per cent min investment £1,000.

Local authority yearling bonds
12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Lambeth 9 1/2 per cent. 2-3 years Nottingham City 10 1/2 per cent. 4-6 years Northampton 11 per cent. 7-10 years Worthing 11 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Finance for industry
Ordinary share accounts - 6.25 per cent. Term shares - 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Finance for industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 10 1/2 per cent; 5 years, 10 1/2 per cent; 6 years, 11 per cent; 7-10 years, 11 1/2 per cent. Further information from: FFI, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 01-928 7822.

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. Fifty-fifty scheme: 6 months 5 1/2 per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10 1/2 per cent.

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Ltd. Reserves 0481 26741. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

US dollar
On 10.35 per cent
12 month 10.35 per cent
French Franc 10.35 per cent
Swiss Franc 11.16 per cent

February RPI: 327.3 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

How to make 200% profit on the Stock Market in just 35 days

At 9am on November 10th 1982, in an operation which involved split second timing, we advised our subscribers to buy Bio-Isolates (Holdings) Ltd at 110p.

At 9am on December 15th, we told them that "If you want a really quick profit" sell at 330p.

By acting quickly on our inside information readers who sold in December made 200% profit in just five weeks. Those who ignored our advice saw the shares rise to 440p (+300%) but they have since fallen dramatically.

It may surprise you to hear that to our regular subscribers this is not an exceptional story.

Over the last year, taking into account all losses, they will have seen a spectacular growth in the shares we recommended.

Are you free to act quickly?

The secret of this financial success is Stock Market Confidential (SMC), posted to subscribers first class every Wednesday evening. In it we make comprehensive buying and selling recommendations, offer sound investment analysis and, most important of all, suggest three hot tips for the week.

The proven way to make a killing

If you examine our investment tipping record for 1982/83 shown you'll see that, even taking into account the losses, there was an extremely healthy growth every month.

The only way to make a killing on the Stock Market is to have reliable advice and the ability to move fast, before the word gets around and prices rocket.

You can buy with confidence

The editor of Stockmarket Confidential is Malcolm Craig; if you're a major investor or a professional stockbroker you'll probably know him personally.

Otherwise you may have read him in the financial press, or one of his highly respected investment books.

What you probably didn't know is that each week he chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they have chosen the USM 'tip of the week' and three other of the hottest tips.

We guarantee that none of these tips will be leaked by the Editorial Board, or published, except in SMC.

Which means you can act with total confidence on Thursday morning.

SMC Growth Record 82/3

Top Performing Share: Security Tag Systems: +640%
Average Growth Per 'Hot Tip' (including losses): +35%
Average holding period: 10.7 weeks

SMC Weekly Contents:

- * Three 'Hot Tips' - act by Thursday lunchtime before other subscribers push up the prices.
- * USM Tip of the Week - aimed at fast in and out profits.
- * Comprehensive investment analysis including gold, building societies and gilts.
- * Valuable inside information for long term capital growth.

SMC is a four-page weekly news sheet available by private subscription.

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On Thursday May 5th, if you're the winner, you'll receive £600 to spend or invest as you please.

We'll suggest you invest it evenly across our 'hot tips' for that week. Because if you do, and your £600 of shares aren't worth £1000 by June 2nd, we'll make up the difference in cash. That's right. We're so confident that our advice is sound we believe £600 will be worth £1000 in just four weeks.

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Send by 29th April

Please send to: STOCK MARKET CONFIDENTIAL, 57/61 Mortimer Street, London WIN 7TD.

NAME (capital) _____

ADDRESS _____

SIGNED _____

DATE _____

To: _____ Bank Ltd

Name of your bank's _____

Branch/Address _____

AC No (if known) _____

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But it's of equal value to first-timers. If you have never invested in the stock market before we'll send you a free book: "How the Stock Exchange Works", to help you squeeze the maximum profit from SMC.

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In case you're away from home on a Thursday morning, or the first post is delayed, we supply you with a confidential 'Hot Tip Hotline' phone number, so that you can hear a summary of that week's SMC.

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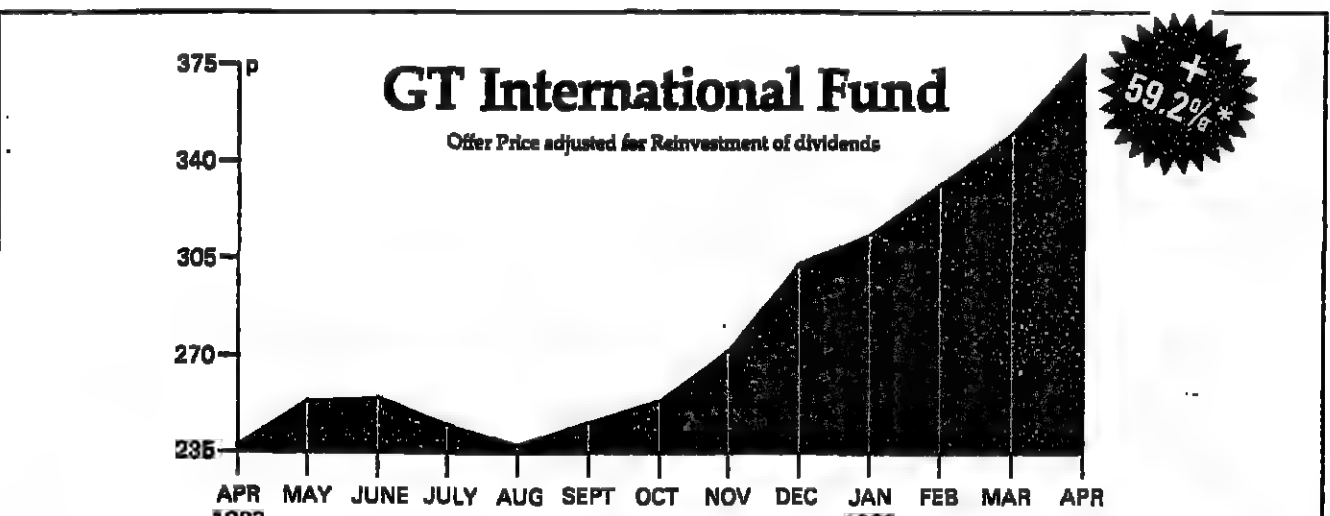
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Please send me FREE book "How the Stock Exchange Works" (other than only) ☐

I am replying before April 29th 1983 to receive year one at half price ☐

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Please pay to the order of Stock Market Confidential, Acc no 91084306 at Midland Bank Ltd, Knightsbridge 40 W 10 the sum of £72.00, two months from the date shown and thereafter the sum of £144.00 each year on the anniversary of the date shown being my membership to Stock Market Confidential and debit my current account accordingly until countermanded by me in writing. TSN



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FAMILY MONEY

The building societies' difficulty in attracting savers, the Government's action in raising the mortgage tax relief limit to £30,000, and the customary spring housemoving fever have combined to produce queues and quotas for mortgage finance once again.

The banks, which entered the house loans market with enthusiasm, have recently seemed to be withdrawing with untimely haste. And building societies cannot meet the demand for funds - now running at more than £800m a month.

So can people still turn to their banks? If they do, will they find a pot of gold or a mess of pottage?

Although as much as £150m a month is still available from the clearing banks as a whole, there is a considerable variation in the commitment by individual banks.

Customers of Williams & Glyn have little chance of assistance. Of the £5,500m so far advanced for house purchase by the clearers, it has provided £150m and there is little more to come at present. The bank is not encouraging applications, and even the most valued customer may not be successful. The Midland has also severely restricted its involvement. Having achieved its ambitions in this area far more quickly than expected, shutters came most of the way down when total loans hit the £1,000m mark. Lending last autumn was running at a rate of £65m to £70m per month, but there is now little more than £10m available on a monthly basis.

Lloyds Bank, which has lent £1,600m, is still in the market,

Mortgages

How banks vary in attitudes to home loans

but curtailed its activity from last autumn by lending only for main homes, raising the cost of an endowment mortgage by half a percentage point and excluding those who had not been customers for at least six months. If you meet Lloyds' criteria, however, you should get a loan straight away and join the ranks of the 80,000 who have been successful.

National Westminster had £1,250m outstanding at the end of last year, having lent £1,000m in the year. They plan to continue lending at that sort of rate this year, so that they could be meeting 10 per cent of the total demand.

Mr Philip Wilkinson, group chief executive went on record last November with a long term commitment to the mortgage market, and there is every indication that this is still the case.

Barclays, too, remain firmly involved in the long term. They have already lent £2,000m, which is in excess of their original plans. Nevertheless, £400m is being made available for new lending this year and existing customers of more than six months standing should not have to wait, if they meet the bank's criteria.

Most of the banks will lend up to two and a half times gross

salary, plus the equivalent of once the second or lower income in the case of joint applicants. But there are variations in this formula, and flexibility in borderline cases.

All the banks provide their customers with a copy of the surveyor's report. They do not insist on house and endowment insurance being arranged through their own insurance broking operations, but obviously prefer it. They will certainly need to be satisfied that the insurer is British based and of high reputation.

There are a number of special schemes, the most common being a savers' service, which is a regular savings plan under which the bank guarantees a mortgage or at any rate preferential treatment at the end of the road. But the schemes do vary considerably in what they demand and offer. Terms and rates of interest vary, particularly in the case of endowment mortgages.

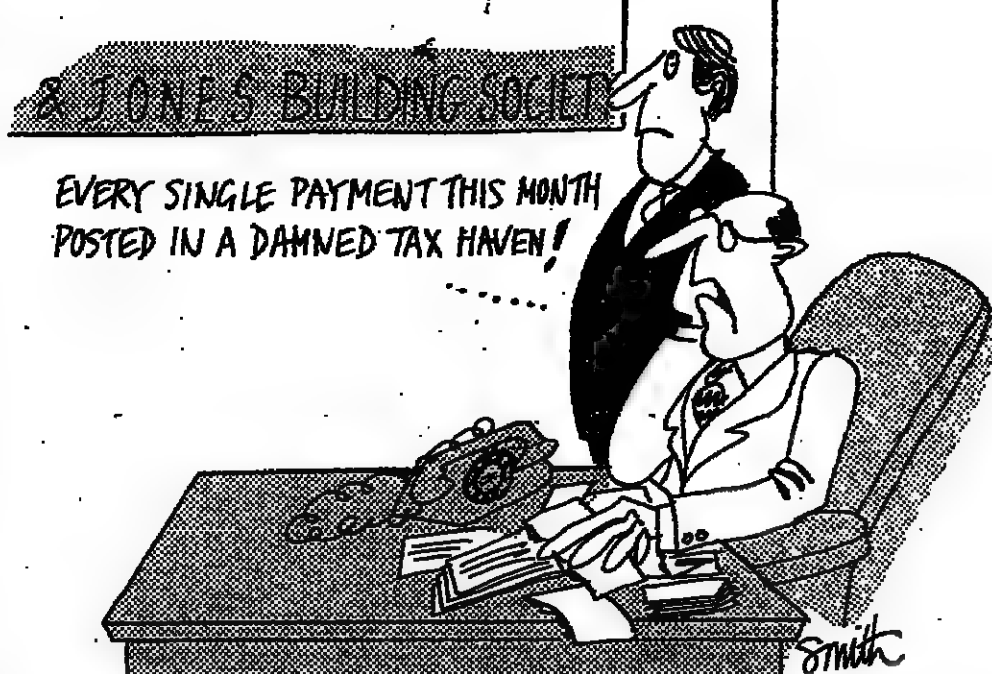
John Duncan

John Duncan is the author of *How to Manage Your Bank Manager*

	Maximum amount (£)	Maximum % (of purchase price or valuation, whichever is the lower)	repayment mortgage	endowment mortgage	Arrangement Fee
Barclays	100,000 (40,000 1st time buyers)	80% 90%	10.25% (Apr: 10.8%)	11.25% (Apr: 11.7%)	£85
Nat West	150,000	80% up to £40,000 85% £40,000-75,000 80% £75,000 +	10% (Apr: 10.7%)	11% (Apr: 11.8%)	£75
Lloyds	No maximum	80%	10.2% (Apr: 10.7%)	10.7% (Apr: 11.3%)	None
Midland	150,000	80%	10.75% (Apr: 11.2%)	11.25% (Apr: 11.7%)	£2 per 1,000 (minimum £50)
Williams & Glyn's	No maximum	95%	10.25% (Apr: 10.8%)	10.25% (Apr: 10.8%)	None

Miras

More help for expatriates



British expatriates, already helped by tax concessions on income earned abroad, are to receive further assistance from the Chancellor under the new Miras arrangements for mortgage repayments.

Not, it should be said, that the Chancellor has ever discriminated against those who choose to work abroad. In certain circumstances they have already been able to claim tax relief on mortgage interest.

Miras, however, has handed that relief on a plate to many thousands of Britons who live abroad - many of them more or less permanently - and who have not paid a penny in tax to the Inland Revenue for years.

It is, in fact, a windfall for anyone buying a house in the United Kingdom, even if he pays his salary into a tax free account in the Caymans or the Isle of Man.

Under various bits of legislation stretching back to the 1973 Finance Act, most expatriates are as much entitled to tax relief on their mortgages as those who work in Britain. In practice, however, most have not claimed such relief.

Miras has changed the mechanics. Relief is now given at source whether the borrower claims it or not.

So even when the borrower has no intention of returning to Britain - and paying income tax - he can claim the same relief as someone who lives here.

There are certain conditions,

but possession of the much-valued status of "non-resident" is not one of them.

To qualify for relief under Miras, interest on the mortgage must be paid in Britain to a "qualifying lender," which covers nearly all banks and building societies. The house on which Miras is claimed must also be the claimant's only or main residence.

Expatriates maintaining their wives and families here should have no difficulty in proving this point.

One complication might disqualify expatriates for part of the relief available to others where an endowment policy has been arranged with a company outside the British premium relief scheme (including those based in various tax havens) as

tax relief is not available. As the Inland Revenue explained with just the smallest sigh of relief: "We can't reimburse companies outside of the scheme."

But the Revenue can - and certainly will - reimburse building societies for applying Miras to expatriate accounts. How taxpayers feel about that remains to be seen.

National insurance

Top earners feel the pinch over contributions

This year's rises in national insurance contributions are once again upon us. For the second year, many people are going to find themselves paying more than £1,000, and out of already taxed income at that, in order to finance their state benefits. In practical terms, the rises mean that up to an extra £2.30 a week will have to be found in many cases.

Everyone has to pay more, but as it is now the regular pattern, those on higher incomes are being hardest hit. With this ever-increasing burden, it is not surprising that more and more grumbles are being heard about the fact that the contributions come out of taxed income.

At the very least, it is argued, they should be treated in the same way as contributions paid into employers' pension schemes, and be allowed tax relief. However, such a change is not on the cards in the future. So what then do the rises mean for the present?

The rate of deduction goes up from 8.75 per cent to a full 9 per cent. In addition, the earnings ceiling - over which no extra contributions have to be paid - goes up from £220 to £235 a week. This is where the pinch can really be felt.

On the plus side, the amount of earnings below which contributions do not have to be paid goes up from £29.50 to £32.50 a week. However, no contributions means no benefits.

The following examples show what the changes mean.

Weekly	1982-83 NI contribn	1983-84 NI contribn	increase
£290	£25.38	£26.40	10p
£300	£26.40	£27.42	10p
£310	£27.42	£28.44	10p
£320 (old maximum)	£28.44	£29.46	10p
£235 (new maximum)	£20.48	£21.50	10p

This means that a "top" earner, someone with more than £12,220 a year, has to pay about £1,100 a year in national insurance contributions out of

pretaxed income. This is about £30 more than in 1982/83.

The changes are different for people in employers' pension schemes which are contracted out of the state pension arrangements. Their contributions, too, are higher.

A change in the way in which the contributions are calculated means bigger rises than for those who are not covered by company pension schemes.

Weekly	1982-83 NI contribn	1983-84 NI contribn	increase
£290	£25.38	£26.40	10p
£300	£26.40	£27.42	10p
£310	£27.42	£28.44	10p
£320 (old maximum)	£28.44	£29.46	10p
£235 (new maximum)	£20.48	£21.50	10p

For the third year running, married women who have the right to pay lower contributions have to find more, even though their contributions do not bring them any state benefits.

Before April 1981, their rate had not changed since 1975, when contributions became earnings related. Their rate shows a steep rise from 3.2 per cent to 3.85 per cent, and this means increases ranging from 21p to £2.01 a week. The reason given for this apparently steep rise is that from April they can get a benefit, in the form of sick pay, from their employer, which they could not get before.

The self-employed do not escape, either. Both the flat rate weekly stamp and their earnings related levy go up. The stamp rises by 65p a week to £4.40. The profits related part of their national insurance payment goes up from 6 per cent and is applied to profits between £3,800 and £12,000 a year instead of £3,450 and £11,000. Taken together, these changes mean increases of up to £97.40 a year.

The minority who pay contributions voluntarily are also hit. Here, the weekly stamp goes up by 65p to £4.30 a week.

Ian McDonald

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I/We enclose a Cheque numbered _____ for £ _____ to be invested in a Seven Day Account ☐ High Option Bondshare ☐ (Tick appropriate box) at my/our local branch in _____

Please send me full details and an application card. Maximum investment £30,000 per person, £60,000 joint account. I/We understand that the interest rates may vary

Full name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Signature(s) _____ Date _____

ABBEY NATIONAL MONEY SERVICE

Granville & Co Limited. (Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited) 27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-421 1212 The Over-the-Counter Market									
1982/83	1983/84	Company	Price	Change	Gross Dividend	Yield %	Actual	P/E Ratio	Dividend
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	135	-	6.4	4.7	7.9	10.3	
138	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	151	-	10.0	6.6	-	-	
74	37	Ainsprug Group	62	-	6.1	9.8	17.7	17.7	
46	30	Armstrong & Rhodes	30	-	14.3	14.3	3.3	5.8	
315	197	Bardon Hill	315	-	11.4	5.6	13.2	16.7	
142	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	142	+1	15.7	11.1	-	-	
270	210	Cindico Group	210	-	17.6	8.4	-	-	
86	32	Deborah Services	52	-	6.0	11.5	3.4	9.3	
95	77	Frank Horrell	97	-	-	-	8.1	8.7	
95	75	Frank Horrell Pr Ord 87	95.5	-	8.7	9.1	10.6	11.4	
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.3	
55	34	George Blair	34	-	-	-	5.9	12.3	
100	74	Ind Pnc Castings	80	-	7.3	9.1	10.3	13.0	
161	100	Isis Conv Pref	161	+2	15.7	9.8	-	-	
143	94	Jackson Group	142	-	7.5	5.3	4.4	9.0	
206	111	James Burrough	206	+1	9.6	4.7	15.0	16.7	
260	148	Robert Jenkins	154	-	20.0	13.0	1.6	24.4	
83	54	Sandwich "A"	71	-	3.7	8.0	9.2	11.1	
167	112	Torday & Cartledge	114	-	0.46	1.8	-	8.7	
29	21	Unilock Holdings	25.5	-	6.4	5.6	4.8	6.9	
85	64	Walsh Alexander	67	-	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.4	
270	214	W.S. Yates	264	+1	-	-	-	-	

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

FAMILY MONEY

Markets

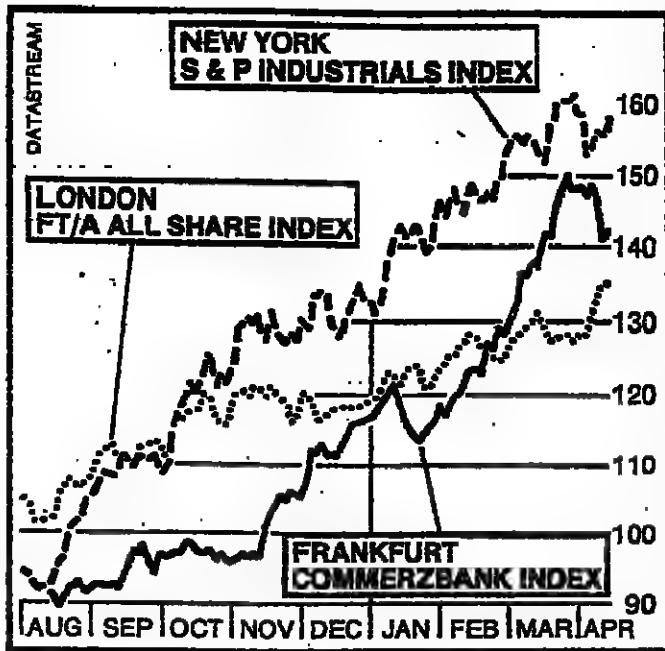
Lower interest rates bring cheer to world economies

Equity markets soared again this week, with investors buying heavily on the hopes of a pick-up in consumer demand as lower interest rates boost economies all round the world. London, Wall Street and Tokyo all reached new records, and Hongkong, France, South Africa and Switzerland were among those improving on performance.

As Wall Street surges on, without stopping to consolidate, sentiment among brokers remains strongly optimistic. Bull markets are expected to be a feature for most of 1983. London saw an official interest rate cut this week, with the banks reducing base rates by half a point to 10 per cent, and money market rates drifted down in most centres, in line with rates in New York. German rates were cut heavily last month and Japan is expected to make a cut as soon as US rates come down decisively. Other central banks will follow suit, as most want to give a boost to their stagnating economies.

London had a very cheerful tone to it this week, following a succession of good company results. Lower sterling is helping exports, and making the United Kingdom less attractive as an import market. Brokers' comment points out that virtually all sectors of the market are now rising. Investors seem to have decided that the coming election can be ignored. The return of Mrs Thatcher is the City's bet at the moment.

Another ingredient in London's bull market is the new confidence in Opec's ability to stabilize the oil price, which had led to some stability in sterling. But that does not mean that there has been a rush to buy oil shares. The popular sectors have been electricals, building materials, paper and packaging and chemicals.



The gilt markets have put in a robust performance so far this year, thanks to the downward trend of interest rates and the belief that continued Conservative rule will result in tight monetary policies. But in the run-up to an election, the momentum in gilts will probably slow down.

Wall Street is not expected to peak until near the end of the year. Phillips & Drew suggest the growth in earnings in 1983 could be 25 per cent, and that the S & P composite index could rise to around 175 against the current level of 158. Dividends are expected to grow by around 5 per cent this year and the average price earnings ratio is expected to drop from the current level of 12.2 per cent to 10.7 per cent.

In New York much of the big funds money, as well as that of overseas investors, is still in the bond and money markets,

enjoying the high level of yield and waiting to take profits in fixed interest stocks as interest rates fall. The Federal Reserve Board will probably be cautious in the extent to which it allows credit to expand, for fear of pushing up inflation rates again; but some further fall in interest rates is still expected.

Phillips & Drew suggest that utilities, in the form of AT & T, still look attractive. The fall in credit terms has increased car sales, and General Motors and Good year Tyre & Rubber will benefit from that factor. They suggest that Levi Strauss will benefit from higher Main Street spending.

The prospects for Japan are less clear. There is an increasingly strong lobby against Japanese exports among EEC and United States manufacturers, and the domestic market is being depressed by high interest rates. Japanese com-

panies, therefore, are feeling the pinch.

Also depressing Japan's growth is the dependence on world trade. The debt problem of the third world countries has limited its capacity to buy foreign goods. These negative influences on Japanese companies are also bad for the currency, which moves in line with Japan's export performance because that has been the country's main source of growth. So not only is the prospect for Japanese dividends limited, but also the opportunity for capital gain on the currency.

Japanese technology companies have been the focus of foreign investment in Japan, and P & D still like Alps, NEC, Sharp, Teac and Tokyo Electron. But the overall rise in the Tokyo market may now be only moderate. South Africa is very dependent on the gold price, gold being overwhelmingly the main source of earnings and the price does seem to be quite happy above \$400 (£267). Just how much further it will rise this year depends on the number of "junk" factors that develop internationally. Wars and high oil prices are two positive factors for gold.

Australia is also largely dependent on the world price for resources. But the new Labour government is less expansion-minded than has originally feared, and foreign investment is returning to the country.

Italy is another market that shows good recovery possibilities, but has some domestic eccentricities that remove much of its attraction. Share price movements closely correlate to the dealings of the major Italian families, who hold strategic stakes in so many big industrial companies.

Sally White

Savings

Escalating your premiums

William & Glyn's customers are being invited in an enclosure with their Access statement to subscribe to a Sun Life monthly investment scheme, the New Flexible Escalator Investment Plan.

The monthly premiums escalate at the rate of 10 per cent a year, and after 10 years investors receive a guaranteed minimum sum plus bonuses. The scheme qualifies for premium relief because of the life assurance element (£4,875 minimum cover for someone aged between 41 and 45 next birthday).

Someone paying £10 a month net in the first year will pay £18.95 a month in the final year, and is guaranteed a payment of £1,365. Including bonuses at the present level, the actual payment would be £2,629.

The escalation element in the scheme makes it difficult to compare with the more traditional 10-year savings schemes, but these returns are not generous.

Income Bonds

Sales reach £1,000m

Sales of the National Savings Income Bond, introduced in August 1982, are nearing the £1,000m mark. The cut in the minimum holding to £2,000, effective from May 3, should ensure that this milestone is soon passed.

There had been strong pressure for National Savings to introduce a simple, interest-paying facility to replace the old British Savings Bonds, withdrawn from sale at the end of 1979. But the reception given to the Income Bond when it appeared last year was less than rapturous.

The minimum investment was fixed at the unexpectedly high level of £5,000, and the withdrawal provisions were criticised as being complicated and harsh. But there is no denying that the bond has been a useful money-raiser for the Government, even though the rate of sales has declined in recent months.

Bonds can be purchased in multiples of £1,000 and pay regular monthly interest, either direct into a bank account or by cheque sent through the post. The rate is currently 11 per cent a year.

Interest is calculated on a day-to-day basis from the date

the purchase money is received at the Bonds and Stock Office, and is paid on the fifth day of each month. The interest is taxable, but is paid in full without deduction of tax at source.

Almost anyone can buy Income Bonds, but they could have a special appeal for elderly people of moderate means. Looking for regular income from their investments.

The position is summarised in the table. The figures for the retirement pension are based on the Government's own estimates for inflation, and the bottom line is the amount that can be earned from investments before tax becomes payable (assuming that the state pension is the only primary source of income).

	Single person (over 65)	Married couple (one over 65)
Income tax allowance	£2,380 pa	£3,755 pa
Retirement pension (from Nov. 1983)	1,778	2,849
Difference	£552	£906

With interest being paid at 11 per cent, the annual return from National Savings Income Bonds is £220 on £2,000 £550 on

£5,000, £880 on £8,000, and so on. Relating these figures to those in the table, the single person could invest £5,000 in Income Bonds, and the married couple £8,000, and still escape tax.

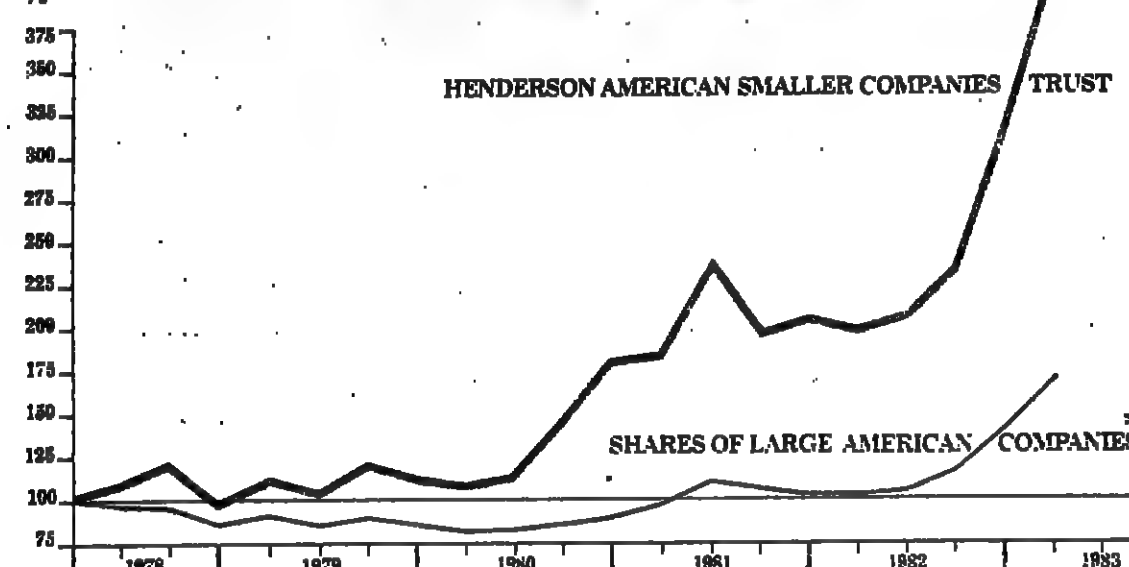
Purchasers must, however, watch the repayment rules. The prospectus, obtainable at post offices, may appear at first like a literary version of Hampton Court maze. It needs to be read carefully.

The holder must at all times give either three or six months' notice. To earn the full rate of interest for the whole period the bonds are held, six months' notice must be given, coming into effect on or after the first anniversary of purchase.

During the first year, no interest is earned on money withdrawn at three months' notice, while on six months' notice only half the normal rate of interest is paid. In following years no interest is paid during the period of notice when three months' notice is given, but full interest is earned if the period of notice is six months.

In everyday terms, no one should invest in the National Savings Income Bond unless they are prepared to take at least a 12-months' view.

The small company is alive and well and making money in America.



*1978 JUNE INDUSTRIAL INDEX ADJUSTED FOR CURRENCY MOVEMENTS

The American Way

At first sight it seems puzzling that the Stock Market of a capitalist economy with so many obvious strengths as the USA has apparently performed so lamely over the last decade or so.

But in fact, there is a lot more dynamism in America's industry than can be measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Index which reflects the performance of just 30 major stocks, or even the Standard and Poor's Composite Index which is based on the share performance of 500 major corporations.

America was the birthplace and cradle of the entrepreneur and this is a fact which is clearly reflected in its corporate evolution. Successful businessmen do not always carry on working for someone else. The American system actively encourages them to start up on their own and build the next generation of major corporations. The frequency with which such entrepreneurial spirit is successful is illustrated by the fact that new companies come to the U.S. Stock Market at the rate of two or three a week. And over the last few years it is the shares of the smaller companies which have been making most of the running—particularly in such dynamic areas as technology, health care, and retailing.

Henderson Performance

Henderson American Smaller Companies Trust was established in 1978 specifically to provide capital growth for investors by seeking to participate in the growth of North American companies too small to have achieved widespread Wall Street recognition.

It says much both for the dynamism of the smaller company sector, and for the opportunities this presents to skilful investment managers that the

offer price of units in this £29 million Trust has risen by 299% since the time of its launch compared with a 94% rise in the Standard and Poor's Composite Index (adjusted to take account of currency movements). In the latest 'Planned Savings' comparison of unit trust companies, this is the top-performing of all unit trusts over the last four years.

Management Expertise

The Henderson Group has been investing in the USA for over 30 years, and during that time an invaluable network of contacts has been established to feed information on suitable prospects back to London. In addition the managers undertake frequent research trips to North America, and meet the management of hundreds of U.S. companies each year. In this way the most promising prospects are identified—in some cases even before they come to the market, for up to 5% of the portfolio of the trust may be invested in unquoted securities.

Fixed Price Offer

To facilitate investment the price of units has been fixed at "50.3p" until 27th April 1983. To take advantage of this offer simply return the application form below together with your remittance (either direct or through your professional adviser) to reach us not later than 27th April 1983.

It should always be remembered that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. The managers are confident that the smaller company sector of the U.S. will continue to show steady future progress and this will be reflected in the performance of the Henderson American Smaller Companies Trust.

Henderson American Smaller Companies Trust

Additional Information

*Should the unit price fall below 50p, the Trust will be required to redeem units at 50p.

At initial charge of 25p on the issue, (equivalent to 25% of the issue price) is made by the managers when units are issued. Out of the initial charge, the managers pay commission to qualified intermediaries, who are available on request. The Trust is not liable for an annual charge of 1% plus VAT of the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Distributions of income will be paid on 1st June and 1st December each year. The estimated gross yield as at 15th April 1983 was 0.41%.

Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within six weeks of payment. To sell units, endorse your unit certificate and send it to the managers. Payment will normally be made within seven working days.

Unit Trusts are not subject to capital gains tax, whereas a unit holder will not pay this tax on a disposal of units unless the total realised gains from all sources in any tax year amount to more than £2,000. Prices and yield can be found daily in the Financial Times. (Units were introduced by a unit on 11th April 1983). Trustees: William & Glyn's Bank plc, Managers: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 20 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DA (Registered Office: 1, Regent Street, London W1A 3AB). A member of the Unit Trust Association. The Henderson Group also manages Personal Finance Unit Trusts, Off-shore Funds, Exempt Trusts and Private Client Portfolios.

B. Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, Unit Trust Department, 1 Ropemaker Road, London EC2A 3DA. Tel: 01-629 8808.

For the fixed price offer, please return this form to the Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 20 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DA. Tel: 01-629 8808. The offer is valid until 27th April 1983. After this date, the offer will be available at the daily quoted price.

SUMMARY: EACH SHARE REPRESENTS ONE SHARE IN THE TRUST. The price of each share is fixed at 50.3p until 27th April 1983. After this date, the price will be the daily quoted price.

To take advantage of this offer, please tick box or telephone for further information. Please send your remittance to the Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 20 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 3DA. Tel: 01-629 8808.

First Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Henderson. The Investment Managers.



The Investment Jungle.

Investing money in today's economic conditions can be an absolute nightmare for the private individual. Markets are volatile world-wide; interest rates are unstable; taxation laws are forever changing—there are literally thousands of investments available.

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(PLEASE PRINT) ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL (OFFICE) _____ (HOME) _____

1A7A K4

Midland Bank Interest Rates

Base Rate

Reduces by ½% to 10% per annum with effect from 15th April 1983.

Deposit Accounts

Interest paid on 7 day deposit accounts reduces by ¾% to 6% p.a. with effect from 15th April 1983.

Monthly Income Deposit Account Service (MIDAS)

Interest paid will be reduced from 10% to 9% p.a. with effect from 16th May 1983.



Midland Bank

Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX



Arbutnot Securities Limited, one of the leading UK unit trust companies, announces the formation of a unique unit trust, Arbutnot World Penny Share Fund. The Fund will be managed by Arbutnot's team of highly successful investment managers.

For a minimum of £200 you can invest in a worldwide spread of penny share companies selected for their exceptional growth potential. Investment in such companies is of course quite speculative, but rewards can be infinitely greater than heavily priced shares.

Penny shares describe companies whose shares are priced in pennies rather than pounds and are usually little known and

unresearched. Consequently they provide excellent opportunities for entrepreneurs to launch them into profitability and these activities are thriving especially in America, Japan and the UK.

The aim of Arbutnot World Penny Share Fund is to achieve maximum capital growth (estimated gross starting yield is 2% p.a.).

Remember the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. Until 6th May 1983, units in the new Arbutnot World Penny Share Fund may be purchased at the fixed launch offer price of 10p. You can invest simply by returning the application form below with your remittance.

General Information
Applications will be acknowledged and unit certificates will be issued within six weeks. Units can be purchased or sold back daily. Repayment is made within 14 days of our receipt of your renounced certificate. The Trust offers investment accumulation units only. The net income is automatically reinvested and the price of units is adjusted to reflect this. Income accumulation statements will be sent to investors on 31st August each year commencing 1984. Daily prices appear in leading newspapers. Remuneration is paid to intermediaries (rates available on request).
Offer price includes 5% service charge. The maximum permitted annual charge is 2% of the value of the Fund plus VAT but the managers will levy this at 1.5%. Three months' notice of any increase will be given. Offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.
Trustee: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Manager: Arbutnot Securities Limited (Reg in Edinburgh 46694), 25 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. Members of the Unit Trust Association.

Arbutnot Securities Limited, 37 Queen Street, London EC4R 1BT or phone 01-236 5281.
(min £200) in Arbutnot World Penny Share Fund at the fixed price of 10p per unit, and enclose a cheque payable to Arbutnot Securities Ltd. (We declare that I am over 18.)
Tick here for details of:
☐ Monthly Savings Plan ☐ Arbutnot's range of unit trusts
Surname(s) Mr/Ms/Ms
Full Name
Address(es)
Signature(s)
Date

ARBUTHNOT
The Unit Trust People

The Norwich Union Life Insurance Society

NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Offices, Surrey Street, Norwich on Tuesday 10th May 1983 at 11.30 a.m. for the transaction of the following business:-

To receive and consider the Reports of the Directors and Auditors and the Accounts for 1982.

To elect Directors in the place of those retiring.

To appoint Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

To consider and if thought fit to adopt the following Special Resolution for the purpose of altering the Society's Articles of Association:-

'The Articles of Association of the Society be altered

(i) by deleting Article 31 and substituting the following Article therefore:-

"31. (1) Until otherwise determined by the Society in General Meeting the aggregate annual amount of the remuneration of the Directors for their services as such shall not exceed £100,000 and shall be divided between them in such proportions as the Directors shall from time to time determine. The Directors may in addition pay pensions and allowances to former Directors and their dependants, and may provide for the payment of pensions, allowances and lump-sum benefits on the death or retirement of any Director, but the aggregate annual amount expended on such provision (exclusive of any pensions and allowances currently being paid, and of any provision for a Director holding any executive office or appointment in addition to his directorship) in respect of any period shall not exceed one-quarter of the said sum of £100,000 or such other amount as may be substituted therefor as the maximum aggregate annual remuneration of the Directors for the time being.

(2) If in the opinion of the Directors special circumstances exist a Director may be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by him in attending and returning from meetings of the Directors or any committee of the Directors or general meetings of the Society or in connection with the business of the Society.

(3) If in the opinion of the Directors it is at any time desirable that any Director shall perform any special service on behalf of the Society or its business such Director shall be paid such additional remuneration for such service as the Directors may think fit."

and (ii) by deleting Article 56 and substituting the following Article therefore:-

"56 The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the Common Seal of the Society which shall only be used and affixed in accordance with regulations made from time to time by the Directors."

Dated this 15th day of April 1983

By order of the Board

H. H. SCURFIELD Secretary Surrey Street Norwich



FAMILY MONEY

Spending

Shop around for credit

purchases carefully. The average Barclaycard holder, repaying the debt within four months, would pay interest equivalent to some 17.5 per cent a year.

A credit card account, unlike the store budget account, can be used anywhere that the credit card is accepted. If you want a revolving credit account that gives you more freedom, you

should try your bank. The big four banks have some form of revolving credit, although NatWest's is simply designed to ease the payment of regular bills.

Midland has something similar but, like Lloyds and Barclays, it also has a cheque book account which can be used much more freely. With the Lloyds Cashflow account, for

instance, you pay in a comparatively high minimum (£20 a month), can borrow up to 30 times your payments (to a maximum of £2,000), and can use the money however you like.

Unlike the stores, Lloyds pays you interest when the account is in credit (at a fairly modest 5 per cent per annum), and it charges a fairly modest

16.4 per cent when the account is in the red. Midland and Barclays will let you pay in less (a minimum of £10 a month), and borrow more (a maximum of £3,000). Both charge you more when you are in debit, but pay you more when you are in the black.

The cheque book and other payment facilities that come with these accounts is useful, but expensive. Lloyds and Barclays both charge 40p for withdrawals by cheque and standing order, rather less for withdrawals by direct debit or through cash dispensing machines. Midland charges 35p for all withdrawals. These rates are substantially higher than those on a normal current account, so you obviously would not want to use your account too frequently.

If you want to undertake some disciplined savings for large purchases, however, they are a good idea, although self-discipline and the use of a building society account would certainly pay better.

However attractive these schemes may be, an overdraft, now at 13 to 14 per cent for favoured customers, is still cheaper. But if you want an overdraft you will have to explain your reasons.

BORROWING MONEY IN THE SHOPS

	monthly payments min-max	Budget accounts minimum multiple	interest rate APR	interest-free credit duration	minimum purchase
House of Fraser stores; ie Army & Navy, Bakers, John Lewis Partnership	£5-no max £50-no max	30 times 20 times	28.8 21.5	6 months	£75 not available
Seas Holdings Stores ie Miss Selfridge, Wallis (and Selfridges)	£25-£30 £25-£50	20 times 30 times	23.1 23.1	not available	not available
Habitat	£20-no max	up to 18 times of £2,000	16.4	Lloyds Bank pays 5% on accounts in credit but charges 40p per cheque or standing order and 30p per direct debit or cash dispenser.	

Law Report April 16 1983 Court of Appeal

'Currency' smuggler escapes drugs conviction

Regina v Taffie
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Mcowan and Mr Justice Nolan
[Judgment delivered April 14]

A man who, admittedly believing that the import of currency was prohibited and that he was importing it, in fact imported 3,732 grammes of cannabis resin, succeeded in an appeal against conviction after he had changed his plea when the trial judge ruled that on the admitted facts the jury would have to be directed to convict him of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on importation of a controlled drug, contrary to section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 and section 3(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

The Court of Appeal quashed the conviction of Paul Desmond Patrick Taffie, a carpenter aged 32, who had been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment at Gravesend Crown Court (Mr Recorder Griffiths) on November 18 last.

The Court of Appeal refused an application by the Crown for an order for a new trial but, on the Crown's application, certified that a point of law of general public importance to be formulated was involved in the decision.

Mr R. D. Roebuck, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant, Mr Christopher Aylwin for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the appellant drove a car into the green lane of the ferry terminal at Sheerness and told the customs officer on duty that he had nothing to declare. The car was searched and it was noticed that the spare tyre was deflated.

In it were found five packages containing cannabis resin. Then he was searched and taped to his back under his clothes were a further three packages of it.

When asked whether he knew what substance was in the packages, he said: "I am waiting to find out because if it's drugs..." and that was the end of that answer. When the officer asked the appellant what he did think was in them, he replied "money".

When arraigned he initially pleaded not guilty. Evidence which the Crown intended to tender was not disputed. No evidence was called.

The trial judge was asked to rule on the question whether the version of events advanced by the appellant if accepted by the jury would entitle him to be acquitted.

Having heard argument from both sides the trial judge considered that he would be obliged, even on the appellant's version of events, to direct the jury to convict. Thereupon he pleaded guilty and was sentenced.

He appealed on the ground that the ruling was wrong in law. Had the alleged offence been committed on the assumption that the following facts were established:

(1) The appellant was seized by a third party in Holland to import a substance into England from Holland in fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on its importation and did so import it.

(2) That substance was in fact cannabis, the importation of which was prohibited by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

(3) The appellant mistakenly believed that the substance to be imported was not a controlled drug.

(4) Currency was not the subject of any such prohibition.

(5) The appellant mistakenly believed that currency was the subject of a prohibition against importation.

One started with the premise that the offence was not one of absolute liability. The use of the word "knowingly" in section 170(2) of the 1979 Act meant that the prosecution

had the task of proving the existence of mens rea, the mental element required by the particular statute on the part of the person charged.

What, in the present case, was the relevant mental element which section 170(2) required to be proved? It was primarily knowledge that the substance which was being imported was a drug or certain was a substance of some sort the importation of which was prohibited.

His Lordship said "relevant" because there were doubtless other facets of the mental element which were not in issue in the present case. Their Lordships did not find helpful *R v Hussain* (1969) 2 QB 670 or *R v Hennessy* (1975) 68 Cr App R 419 on which Mr Aylwin principally relied, and they disagreed with his contention that, in a passage in *Hussain*, at pp 571-572, the word "know" included the state of mind of a person who "mistakenly believed" a fact to exist.

It was essential that the person charged should "know" in the ordinary sense - know what was in fact the case, that the goods being imported were goods subject to a prohibition, although on the basis of *Hussain* and *Hennessy* he might not know their precise nature.

The matter could be approached from another angle. In *Sweet Parsley* (1970) AC 132, 163, after citing *R v Stephen* in *R v Tolson* (1889) 23 QBD 162, Lord Diplock said: "... even where the words used to describe the prohibited conduct were goods subject to a prohibition, the necessity for any particular mental element, they are nevertheless to be read as subject to the implication that a necessary element in the offence is the absence of a belief held honestly in the existence of facts which if true would make the act innocent. As was said by the Privy Council in *Bank of New South Wales v Piper* (1897) AC 383, 389, 390, the absence of *mens rea* really consists in such a belief by the accused."

What, then, if the jury in the present case had been asked to decide the matter and might have concluded that the appellant might have believed that what he was importing was currency and not prohibited drugs?

He had to be judged against the facts as he believed them to be. Had it been currency and not cannabis no offence would have been committed.

Did it make any difference that the appellant thought wrongly that he was knowingly importing currency when he was committing an offence? Mr Aylwin submitted that it did and that a man had to be judged according to the total mistakes under which he was acting.

Their Lordships thought that that submission was wrong. It no doubt made his actions morally reprehensible. It did not turn what he, for the purposes of the offence, was doing into the importation of a criminal offence. His views on the law as to the importation of currency were, so that extent, irrelevant.

Mr Aylwin, by way of an argument in *terrorem*, suggested that if the appeal was allowed then all importers of drugs would say they believed that the substance was money and not drugs and the courts would be inundated by bogus defences.

As to that: whether the jury, if the matter had been left to them, would have had any doubt about the appellant's knowledge that the substance he was importing was a controlled drug was another matter and did not have to be decided.

The present case was, however, clearly not appropriate for the application of the proviso to section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968.

Solicitors: Solicitors, Customs and Excise.

Judge's decision to separate plot defendants

Regina v Roberts
It was a matter for the judge's assessment whether, in a conspiracy involving two defendants, the two cases were different so that it was possible for one defendant to be acquitted, the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lawton, Mr Justice Michael Davies and Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln) held on April 15 when dismissing an appeal by John Joseph Roberts against conviction.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that the judgment of the Lord Chief Justice in *R v Roberts* (1981) 72 Cr App R 121, 125, had to be construed as meaning that it was for the judge and not for the jury to decide whether evidence against a defendant was markedly

Conspiracy to cause damage abroad not indictable here

Attorney General's Reference No 1/1982

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Mcowan
[Judgment delivered March 30]

On a charge of conspiracy to defraud where the conspiracy was to be carried out abroad, it was not indictable in England even if its performance would cause economic loss and damage to the proprietary interests of a company within the jurisdiction, or if its performance would injure a person or company here by causing him or it damage abroad.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so stated in giving a reserved opinion on a reference of points of law by the Attorney General under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1972.

Miss Ann Goddard, QC, and Mr P. C. Ader for the Attorney General; Mr Colin Dines for the defendants.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the defendants were charged with conspiracy to defraud. The particulars of the offence were that they had conspired together and with others to defraud such companies and persons, and in particular X Company Ltd, as might be caused loss by unlawful labelling, sale, supply or marketing of whisky purporting to be that of Y label products, X Co Ltd being the proprietors of the labelled products and owning the copyright in the label.

At the conclusion of the Crown case the judge upheld submissions on behalf of the defendants that the court had no jurisdiction to try the indictment because a conspiracy in England to commit a crime abroad was not indictable here unless the crime contemplated was one for which an indictment would lie in England.

X Co distilled and marketed whisky. Their registered offices were in England. Two of their brands or labels were world famous. They owned the copyright in and claimed the exclusive use of those labels. Their labels were protected by trade marks registered in almost all countries, and in particular in England, Germany and the Lebanon.

Two of the defendants, A and B, were directors of Y Co. That company had no business dealings with X Co.

The prosecution case was that A and B arranged to sell to L a large quantity of whisky, the ultimate destination of which was to be the Lebanon. The contract was concluded in London.

Perforated sheets of labels imitating those of X Co were printed and brought to Y Co in London, where A, B and C (another defendant) passed them to their transmission to Frankfurt, where they were to be fixed to the bottles of whisky, prior to the whisky being shipped to the Lebanon and sold as the X Co's product. The German authorities then seized the whisky before the plans could be further implemented.

X Co had appreciable sales in the Lebanon, and it was likely that if the defendant's whisky, masquerading as that of X Co, had been sold in the Lebanon, X Co would have suffered loss of trade, quite apart from the infringement of their trade marks and possible injury to their reputation generally.

Miss Goddard, for the Attorney General, asserted that the indictment was drawn with the intention of alleging against the defendants a conspiracy to defraud the X Co and/or its parent or subsidiary companies.

It was not intended, despite its wording, to allege a conspiracy to defraud any possible purchasers of the whisky in the Lebanon. Indeed, she expressly disavowed any reliance on a conspiracy to obtain money by deception.

Her argument stood or fell on her contention that what was proved here was a conspiracy to defraud X Co or its associates by the dishonest use of its labels.

Thereafter she advanced two separate propositions. Her starting point was, as it must be, the decision of the House of Lords in *Board of Trade v Owen* (1957) AC 602. That case decided that a conspiracy in England to commit a crime abroad was not indictable in England unless the crime contemplated was one for which an indictment would lie in England.

Miss Goddard's first argument was that, accepting that test, although no indictment would lie in England for a substantive crime if this conspiracy was carried out, the conspiracy itself was indictable here because its ultimate object was to

injure the X Co in England, albeit by acts done abroad, and that was a conspiracy to defraud the X Co in England by infringing their copyright.

Miss Goddard submitted that a conspiracy to defraud could exist without deceit, that false representations need not be made, and that the execution of the conspiracy need not involve the commission of a substantive crime. She said that all that was required was an agreement dishonestly to cause economic loss or prejudice to another.

She relied on *Bank Film Distributors Ltd v Video Information Centre* (1982) AC 580, *R v Scott* (1975) AC 819 and *R v Allway* (1976) 64 Cr App R 29 and argued that in the present case, whether the conspirators intended it or not, the effect of this dishonesty abroad would have been to injure the X Co's economic interests in England, and that was the real object of the fraud.

The real question must in each case be what was the true object of the agreement entered into by the conspirators? In their Lordships' judgment, the object here was to obtain money from prospective purchasers of whisky in the Lebanon by falsely representing that it was the X Co's whisky.

It might well be that if the plan had been carried out some damage could have resulted to the X Co, but that would have been a side effect or incidental consequence of the conspiracy, not its object.

It would be contrary to principle as well as being impracticable for the courts to attribute to defendants constructive intentions to defraud third parties based on what the defendants should have foreseen as probable or possible consequences.

Had it not been for the jurisdictional problem, their Lordships had no doubt that the charge against those conspirators would have been conspiracy to defraud potential purchasers of the whisky, for that was the true object of the agreement. Accordingly, the first argument was rejected.

Miss Goddard's alternative approach was more bold. She asked their Lordships to lay down a different test from that proposed in *Board of Trade v Owen*, which she suggested was inappropriate to the facts of this case. The new test proposed was that if a conspiracy to defraud, although to be wholly carried out abroad, would cause injury to an individual or company within the jurisdiction, it was indictable here.

It was contended that the protection of economic interests in this country against injury by fraud here or abroad was a legitimate and proper function of the criminal law.

The only semblance of support for that proposal was a dictum at the end of Lord Tuckey's speech in *Board of Trade v Owen* where he said, at p 634, that he would "reserve for future consideration the question whether a conspiracy in this country which was to be carried out abroad may not be indictable here on proof that its performance would produce a public mischief in this country or injure a person here by causing him damage abroad."

It was to be noted that the point for consideration was limited to cases where the conspiracy was made in England, but that could well involve the most technical anomalies, such as were fore-shadowed by Lord Wilberforce in *Director of Public Prosecutions v Doot and Others* (1973) AC 801, 818.

If, on the other hand, Lord Tuckey's limitation was removed, the new test would be immensely wide. Whenever a fraudulent conspiracy made abroad and to be carried out abroad sent ripples back to England, whether by causing or damaging some economic interest here, an indictment would lie.

Their Lordships could find no grounds in authority or principle for so holding, and rejected Miss Goddard's second argument.

The points of law which had been posed for consideration were: (1) whether on a charge of conspiracy to defraud where the conspiracy was to be carried out abroad, it was indictable if its performance would cause economic loss and damage to the proprietary interests of a company within the jurisdiction; and (2) whether on a charge of conspiracy to defraud where the conspiracy was to be carried out abroad it was indictable if its performance would injure a person or company here by causing him or it damage abroad. Their Lordships' answer in each case was "no".

Solicitors: Director of Public Prosecutions, Alison Porter & Co.

Allied Irish Banks Limited

announce that with effect from
close of business on
15th April 1983
its Base Rate is reduced
from 10½% to 10% p.a.

Head Office - Britain: 64-66 Coleman Street
London EC2R 5AL

Standard Chartered

announces that on
and after 15th April, 1983
its Base Rate for
lending is being decreased
from 10½% to 10% p.a.

The interest rate payable on deposit accounts subject to seven days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 7½% to 6½% p.a.

The interest rate payable on High Interest deposit accounts subject to twenty one days notice of withdrawal will be decreased from 8½% to 7½% p.a.



Standard Chartered Bank PLC

RUGBY LEAGUE

Title awaits Hull in more ways than one

By Keith Macklin

Barring some remarkable scoring by Wigan, the championship belongs to Hull, who can be expected to clinch it in the Rugby League game of the season against Barns tomorrow. For Wigan to overtake Hull they would need to win at Widnes by about 5 points, while Hull would need to lose against Barns, who face the second division after tomorrow's games.

So confident, and understandably so, are Hull that it has been arranged with the approval of the Rugby League that the Championship trophy, sponsored by the Humberstons at the end of tomorrow's game.

Fleethorpe Rovers are the only

team who can unwaveringly prevail. Barrow from going down, simply giving up. The team is not going to need only to beat Bradford Northern at home tomorrow to avoid the descent, and with Northern playing their fourth game in five days, a home win must be expected.

The second division Fulham return home Craven Cottage after winning two midweek matches at the Widnes ground. The Fulham pitch has dried out and this will be a good opportunity for the faithful Cottage supporters to salute the team's progress towards the championship. York have improved under the coaching of Phil Lowe but it is doubtful whether they can hold out against a Fulham side led

| bringing a return to the first division.

SNOOKER

Higgins: Omen II

event, yet was dramatically by beating Ray Reardon in the final.

Reardon, who has won the title six times, is the defending champion challenger in the bottom half of the draw. He has an impressive record this season, having won the Professional Players' tournament in the Midlands, the British Open tournament sponsored by Yamaha and the World Matchplay sponsored by Organs. After making a brilliant recovery he lost to Clift Thorburn of Canada, in the final of the Masters tournament, sponsored by the Hedges, at Wembley in early this year.

Thorburn, who won the world title in 1980 by beating Higgins in the final, is seeded No. 3 and is in the bottom half of the draw. Jimmy White, world No. 1, is defeated in the White, wmoal. Reardon has not won the title for the six years since the event moved to Sheffield there have been six different champions.

Mike Hallett, who has five years' experience from Grimsby, was the last player to qualify. He meets Spencer Smith, who has won the title three times

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RACING: 2,000 GUINEAS TRIAL AT NEWBURY

Proclaim can strike while the iron is hot

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

At one time this spring there was a distinct possibility that Proclaim and Gypsy would clash for the first time since their controversial race at Newmarket last autumn in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury.

Had that happened the racing world would have been awaking the outcome with bated breath. Sadly, more recent events have decreed otherwise - Gypsy's preparation for the 2,000 Guineas was interrupted a fortnight ago when he pulled a muscle in his quarters while Dick Hern declined to run one as big as Gypsy, who is the very essence of a good mover on the soft ground, just a fortnight before his classic.

So today's trial, which is being sponsored for the 11th year in a row by the Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, is not quite what it might have been. Nevertheless, it is a valuable Proclaim trial and All Systems Co. standing their ground it is far from irrelevant as they all feature prominently in the ante-post betting for the first colts' classic.

Normally one would not even be tempted to look further, especially as the Fort was rated above his rivals this afternoon in the Free Handicap, following his defeat of Zoffany at Goodwood in the second yearling colts' race.

But three things persuade me to oppose The Fort now. The first is Cecil's by unusually slow start to the season which has been his horses being more backward than usual because of the vile weather there, and the work that he has been able to give them as a result. The second is the

Fort's rather sluggish showing in that gallop with Dicks and Gypsy, while the third is the undoubted fitness and form of Proclaim who has won two races already this season.

In running Proclaim again so soon after winning the Classic Trial at Salisbury last Saturday, Guy Harwood is the first to admit that he is endeavouring to settle again while the iron is still hot and when today's seven-furlong distance will be just up his sleeve.

What is crystal clear is that Proclaim will never have a better chance of beating The Fort than he has now. West and All Systems Co. the other fancied runners, dashed once, already before. That was last June when West beat All Systems Go by three lengths. Unfortunately a torn muscle dented us another sight of West.

The Fort, a two-year-old, whereas All Systems Go went from strength to strength, winning his next four races including the Season Delaval Stakes at Newmarket.

All Systems Go is the subject of encouraging reports from Newmarket, where he is trained by Gavin Pritchard-Gordon, but I still believe that the advantage lies with Proclaim now.

No matter how The Fort fares, Henry Cecil and Lester Pigott should, by all accounts, be empty handed. By all returns they will be on the mare with Magdalena (2.0) and Adonijah (4.30), in the first and second Stakes at Newbury.

They do not come much better bred than Magdalena, who is a Northern Dancer out of Madeline who won the French equivalent of our 1,000 Guineas and Oaks in her heyday.

Northern Dancer is arguably the most influential stallion alive today.



The Fort out to strengthen his classic claims in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury

By all accounts Magdalena has been showing promise to match her pedigree at home. With £25,000 added to the sweepstakes, the John Porter Stakes is the most valuable race at Newbury today and what a fascinating trial of strength it promises to be.

A year ago Amyndas and Centrolone were involved, with Gilt of Gold and Critique, in that pulsating finish. Now they are joined by Diamond Shark, Norwich, Chairpout and Broken Rail, four of the horses who ran in the St. Leger, not to mention those successful old

war horses Little Wolf and Laforaine. Caught in the right mood, Amyndas will give and go as he gets.

And so to yesterday's racing at Newbury where, to the relief of one and all, Spring arrived at long last in the Free Handicap Stakes, Habibi confounded expectations and did not enhance her chances of winning the 1,000 Guineas in a fortnight.

She looked magnificent in the paddock, but in the race itself ran too freely for her own good and basically performed like a sprinter, pure and simple. Nevertheless, she

will still take top luck in the first classic of our season at Newmarket, unless the easy winner Goodfellow Shelley who will now endeavour to beat the French again on their own ground in their 1,000 Guineas.

The last time that she did so was in October when she won the coveted Prix Marcel Bousseau at Longchamp on Arc day. Flamenco, who finished fourth behind Goodfellow Shelley yesterday, will also be switched to the French classic by Ian Balding, whose Salisbury trial winner, Silver Dip, goes for the Princess Elizabeth Stakes at Epsom next week.

Royal Vulcan wins

Royal Vulcan got the better of a rare battle with Elbecho on the flat in the Scottish Handicap Hurdle by a head at Ayr yesterday.

The pair had the race to themselves in the closing stages after the long-time leader Gay George, last year's winner, weakened. Royal Vulcan will now be sent over to the Hurdle at Haydock on May 2, when Elbecho is also expected to be in the line-up.

There are no English runners at Longchamp tomorrow when the sun has finally appeared to dry the saturated track of some two weeks old. A previous outing this season could still be an advantage so I am going for Escaline to take the group III Prix Vanteaux from Aborigine.

Escaline to shine at Longchamp

By Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris

The Prix Noailles is reserved for French bred and my selection for this is making a bid to the Jockey Club to win the Prix de la Ville de Paris in the Prix de la Ville de Paris in the Prix de la Ville de Paris.

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Ancestral deputizes for Danzatore

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Danzatore is an absentee from this afternoon's McCairns classic trial at the Phoenix Park, but his trainer, Vincent O'Brien, was away from Ballydoyle yesterday and no official comment was forthcoming on rumours detrimental to the well being of the colt, which had circulated since the middle of the week.

In the absence of Danzatore, Vincent O'Brien relied on Ancestral, who won both his starts in Ireland last season, but disappointed grievously when last of five to Dicks in the William Hill Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket last Autumn.

Ancestral has to give 5lb to Rock n'Roller who carries the colours of Robert Sangster, but who is trained at The Curragh by Mick O'Toole.

Last task could be beyond the top weight as Rock n'Roller had some very promising runs last season including finishing second to Horage in the Cimerack Stakes at York.

The Sangster colours will also have a double stake entry in the Mulcahy three-year-old fillies stakes. Barry Hills, the Lambourn trainer, has sent over Bright Cone, but although she finished up her two-year-old career with a win at this distance at Catterick, her claims look less impressive than the other Sangster runners.

Committed, trained by Dermot Weld.

There are no English runners at Longchamp tomorrow when the sun has finally appeared to dry the saturated track of some two weeks old. A previous outing this season could still be an advantage so I am going for Escaline to take the group III Prix Vanteaux from Aborigine.

Escaline to shine at Longchamp

By Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris

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Horage to show way for Saint-Martin

By Michael Seely

Yves Saint-Martin, 14 times French champion jockey, can make his first visit to Thirk, a memorable occasion by winning the Timeform Racer Stakes on Horage this afternoon. This is the man who has twice shown Lester Pigott the way home in the Prix de l'Académi, the first time when riding Sessafra to victory over Nijinsky in 1970, and again in that memorable finish between Aktyda and Andros last year.

Horage should provide a fitting vehicle for Saint-Martin's talents. Bought by Mart McCormack for only 6,000 guineas as a yearling, the Tumbleweed colt won an incredible nine races as a two-year-old. And he had certainly had enough for the season when only finishing fourth to Salieri in the Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury.

Horage raced with courage and zest throughout the year. He showed budding qualities of the highest order by beating Kafa in the Coventry Stakes at Ascot and again when giving weight to On Stage in the July Stakes at Newmarket. A win in the Grimsack Stakes at York represents Horage's other pattern race victory.

McCormack is delighted with his preparation, and is hoping for a best of five from the colt. Jack Hanson's American-bred colt only won one race last season, but was beaten only about four lengths when fifth to Dunsford and Coeur Robin in the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster. Shearwall, Johnny Nobody and Larionov also have to be considered. But is Horage's ability to be equal to his task?

Saint-Martin could well complete a triple by winning the "See It Live" Handicap on Bruce Hobbs's filly, Deperment, and the Clifton Stakes on Our Dynasty.

At Doncaster, Our Dynasty won like a two-year-old of above average ability when sprinting home by four lengths in the Brocklesley Stakes. Michael Lambard had tested the colt several times against older horses before, and the consequent heavy backing was justified.

There are no English runners at Longchamp tomorrow when the sun has finally appeared to dry the saturated track of some two weeks old. A previous outing this season could still be an advantage so I am going for Escaline to take the group III Prix Vanteaux from Aborigine.

Escaline to shine at Longchamp

By Desmond Stoneham, French Racing Correspondent, Paris

The Prix Noailles is reserved for French bred and my selection for this is making a bid to the Jockey Club to win the Prix de la Ville de Paris in the Prix de la Ville de Paris in the Prix de la Ville de Paris.

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

Sunday

مكتبة من الاصل

BBC 1

8.25 Open University (until 8.55); 8.25 Poldark 3; The Deal; 8.50 Industrial Revolution; 7.15 Social work in Action; 7.40 Curriculum in Schools; 8.05 Punjab to Britain; 8.30 South Riding.

8.55 Leon Errol: Old Hollywood comedy; 9.15 East Set Magazine show for the youngsters; With The Stars, Mike Harding and Video-vote; 11.10 Film: Devil Girl from Mars (1954); Flying saucer lands by mistake in the Scottish Highlands; With Patricia Liffan, Gifford-Hugh, Gifford-Hugh and Joseph Tomelty; Director: David Macdonald.

12.30 Grandstand. The line-up is: 12.30 Football Focus; 1.05 Sportsround-up; 1.10 Professional Championship; 1.15 Badminton Horse Trials; And a preview of the London Marathon; 1.50 Newbury Racing; 2.10 Badminton Horse Trials; 2.20 Newbury Racing; 2.40 Snooker (continues); 2.50 Newbury Racing; 3.10 Badminton Horse Trials; 3.20 Newbury Racing; 3.45 Half-time scores.

3.55 Snooker (continues) and Badminton Horse Trials (continues); 4.35 Final Score.

5.10 Miley and Donatelli: Disney cartoons.

5.35 News with Jan Leeming; 5.45 Sportsround-up.

5.50 The Duke of Hazard: Daisy enters the Miss 17-Counties beauty pageant. With Catherine Bach.

6.40 Pop Quiz: The second bout in the new series features Ian Gillies, Junior and Mark Bedford, from Madras; Tim Rice; Tracey Ullman and Jo Cates from Limerick League.

7.10 Date with Danger: City on Fire. Drama about a city blaze that threatens a busy hospital. With Henry Ford, Awa Gardner and Barry Newman; Director: Alvin Rakoff.

8.50 News; And sports round-up.

9.05 Dynasty: Fallon learns from Sammy Jo that Blake is not her real father. Blake and Kristy seem to be heading for a reconciliation.

9.55 Wogan in this, the first of his Saturday night conversation series, Wogan chats with Rowan Atkinson; the singer Johnny Mathis; and the actor Omar Sharif.

1.40 Blood Money: Episode two of this tense thriller about a bunch of assassins who kidnap a young lad, son of a United Nations diplomat. With Bernard Hepton, Michael Denison and Juliet Hammond-Hill.

4.0 Film: The Secrets of Three Hungry Wives (1978); Made-for-television movie about a murdered millionaire's playboy. The subsequent investigation involves three women - any one of whom could have had a reason to kill him. Starring James Frawley, Jessica Walters, Graham Croft and Gordon Macrae. Directed by Gordon Hessler.

15 Weather prospects.

TV-am

6.00 Daybreak, followed at 7.00 by Good Morning Britain presented by the Parkinsons. Items include news at 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30; Sport at 8.30, 7.00; Entertainment guide at 7.15; Bill Oddie at 7.45; Michael Parkinson's interview with Susanah York can be seen at 8.07; Aerobics at 8.32; Data Run (the youngsters' magazine) at 8.40, with singer Robert Palmer and a special item on toys. Closesown at 9.15.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street with The Muppets; 10.30 The Sunday Show: varied entertainment for the youngsters.

12.15 World of Sport. The line-up is: 12.20 Motor Cycling (round one of Yamaha Pro-Am Series); 12.35 Cycling (Paris-Roubaix race, and Fleche Wallonne run); 1.45 Cup semi-final preview; 1.15 News.

1.20 The ITV Sbc from Thirsk, the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30, and from Ayr, the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.55 (William Hill Scottish National League); 3.10 Motor cycling (World Sport Superbike Challenge, from Donington. All eyes on Barry Sheene); 3.45 Half-time scores; 4.00

News; 4.15 Results.

5.05 News from ITV.

5.15 Metal Mickey: Comedy starring the lovable robot and Irene Handl.

5.45 The Fall Guy: Colt (Lee Majors) spoils the stake-out of a gangster.

8.45 The Children's Royal Variety Performance: Family entertainment (staged in London last month) from a line-up that includes the Gaze for a Laugh team; Stu Francis; Roger De Courcy and Noddy Bear; Russ Abbot's Madhouse team; puppeteers Pops and Friends; and groups such as Modern Romance and Kajagoogoo. With kids International, the Scouts and Cubs of the United Kingdom and the Trustees of the Junior Leaders Regiment. Performed in the presence of Princess Margaret at Her Majesty's Theatre.

8.45 T.J. Hooker: Police drama. The supermarket robbers who would rape cars. With Willem Dafoe.

9.45 Tales of the Unexpected: The Memory Man. Colin Blakely and Bernard O'Brien in a story about a memory training class and one of its "students".

10.15 News. And sports round-up.

10.30 The Big Match: Highlights of one of the day's FA Cup semi-finals.

11.30 London news headlines. Followed by: A Fashion Extravaganza by Antony Price. Rock-style show presentation of the latest fashions designed by the men whose clients include Ryan Ferry, Paula Yates, David Duran and Elton John.

12.30 Close. Brian Blessed reads something by Francis Bacon.

Frank Finlay and Susan Penhaligon in Bouquet of Barbed Wire (Channel 4, 10.00pm)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University. Ends at 8.10.

8.10 Film: The Divided Heart (1957) Drama, set in post-war Europe, about an adopted boy whose real mother arrives in Yugoslavia to claim him. With Cornell Borchers and Yvonne Mitchell. Director: Charles Crichton.

4.35 Badminton Horse Trials: with Lucinda Green and Captain Mark Phillips competing.

5.30 The Sky at Night: Patrick Moore discusses the Quikstart Pulsar with Professor Graham Smith, the Astronomer Royal.

5.50 Grand Slam: Great Britain versus the US in a bridge tournament. The British players are defending a narrow lead.

6.15 States of Mind: In the latest of his conversations about psychology, Jonathan Miller talks to George Mandler, Professor of Psychology at the University of California; 7.05 News.

7.20 World Snooker: The Embassy World Professional Championship. We see Alex Higgins in action at about 7.30.

8.05 Alfred Brendel Masterclass: The distinguished pianist works on Beethoven's Sonata in D major, Op 81 No 2, with Gilad Mizgory, an Israeli.

8.50 Roger Deakins: Live Here Any More? Comedy series with Jonathan Pryce as the divorced husband whose former wife (Diane Fletcher) keeps interfering in his new life.

9.20 World Snooker: We see Alex Higgins and John Spencer in action at The Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. More at 11.45.

9.55 Film International: Three Russians. Francesco Rosi's award-winning film about a difficult family reunion in southern France after the death of the mother. Three sons look back over their early years and find little to bring them comfort as they face the future. What little optimism there is belongs to their aged father and his young

granddaughter. With Philippe Noiret, Michele Piccolo and Vittorio Mezzogiorno.

11.40 News with Jan Leeming.

11.45 World Snooker: Further coverage of the Embassy World Professional Championship. From The Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Ends at 12.50 approximately.

CHANNEL 4

2.15 Go Fishing with Jack Charlton: catching trout in the River Tay in Devon (1).

2.40 Film: Executive Suite (1954). Star-studded drama about five executives battling for the company top job. With Frederic March, William Holden, June Allyson, Barbara Stanwyck, Walter Pidgeon. Director: Robert Wise.

4.35 Password: Celebrity guests are Martin Jarvis and Rosalind Wiseman. The MC is Tom O'Connor.

5.05 Brookside: Two repeated episodes (1).

6.00 Square Peg: American-made comedy series with Sarah Jessica Parker and Amy Liner as the two new students.

6.30 News. Followed by 7 Days. Moral and ethical issues behind the headlines.

7.00 A Week in Politics: Includes a report on the radical right's take-over attempt in the Conservative Party. Sir Ian Gilmour, former minister of State at the Foreign Office, is interviewed.

7.45 Race, Rhetoric, Rastafari: A Rastafarian's view of present-day Britain. With Malinda Lee.

8.45 World of Animation: Includes The Great Gatsby.

9.00 Male - A Woman Now. Brazilian-made drama serial with Regina Duarte as the divorcee.

10.00 Bouquet of Barbed Wire: Run of all seven episodes of Andrea Newman's 1978 drama series about the deeply troubled Manson family. With Frank Finlay and Susan Penhaligon. The latter, Finlay's daughter, returns pregnant from her honeymoon.

11.00 The Late Clive James: First in a new series of chat shows that aim to raise the general level of conversation while still keeping the fun going. Different guests every week but the same presenter - Mr James. Tonight's guest are the comedians Punchy D. Miriam Stoppard and Debbie Moore (of Pinesapple Dance Studios).

11.50 Naked City: A Death of Princess. Run of the 1980s American-made crime series, narrated by the 1948 US Death movie in Sheffield. Ends at 12.45 approximately.

12.45 Closedown.

BBC 1

6.25 Open University (until 8.55); Dictionaries and Popular Imagery; 6.50 Conceptual Models on Strategy; 7.15 Computer Systems; 7.40 Counting Atom; 8.05 Dictionaries; 8.30 Stereochemistry of Addition Reactions.

8.55 Pigeon Street (1).

9.10 London's Marathon: There are 18,000 runners this year and there is live coverage four times this morning. This is the first 10.00 Knock Knock: A popular approach to religion; 10.15 This is the Day: Westsiders in their homes are linked by the TV set; 10.45 London's Marathon.

10.55 Asian Magazine: The Beatles' activities in London; 11.25 London's Marathon: yet another progress report; 12.10 The Skill of Lip-Reading: for the hard of hearing (1); 12.35 London's Marathon: who made it - and who didn't.

1.00 Farming: 1.25 Blizzards: The world in miniature. With Richard Bland; 1.50 News; 1.55 News; 2.15 News; 2.45 Eurovision Song Contest: Preview: What's in a store in Munich on April 23.

3.20 Badminton Horse Trials: The Queen presents the Whitbread Trophy to the winner. A 15-minute film of the highlights from yesterday's football action.

5.15 Face the Music: Joseph Cooper's guests are Shirley Williams, Denis Healey, Tony Blair and John Kennedy; 5.50 News.

6.00 Antiques Roadshow: From Dundee. The fourth series party make the town headlines. With Arthur Negus and Hugh Scull.

6.40 Songs of Praise: from West Church, Ballymena, Northern Ireland.

7.15 London's Marathon: Want the day well? We see the highlights.

8.00 Women on the Orient Express: To Venice - in style, and with many a chuckle en route.

8.55 Westminster: Second semi-final. Questions on The Thirty Years War (1618-1648). Monty, The Flashman novels; and Scott's expeditions to the Antarctic.

9.25 News with Jan Leeming.

9.40 That's Life: Esther Rantzen and Co. have fun, and investigate consumers' groups.

10.20 Heart of the Matter: David Jessel talks to church leaders about new initiatives of reconciliation with Argentina. First in the resumed series devoted to moral dilemmas.

10.55 Orchestra: First of six programmes, presented by Jane Glover, tracing the history of music-making through the ages. Today: from the medieval waits to Monteverdi's opera Tancredi and Clorinda.

11.25 Sergeant Bilko: Phil Silvers in the classic American Army comedy series over made (except for M*A*S*H).

11.50 Weather prospects for Monday.

TV-am

7.00 Rub-a-Dub-Tub, for the very young, followed by Good Morning Britain (presented by Michael Parkinson) at 8.00. Items include news at 8.00, 8.30, 9.30 and 10.15; the Sunday Papers, at 8.10; Political Gossip, at 8.35; Book spot at 8.40; Discussion of the Week, at 8.50 and Sport at 8.50 and 8.10, and London Marathon report between 8.00 and 8.10.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Me and My Car: How to improve your MOT test chances; 10.00 Morning Worship from Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell, West Yorkshire; 11.00 Link: The financial barriers that hold back physically handicapped students; 11.30 Paul Meats Jesus. With Paul Copley (1); 11.45 Cartoon Time.

2.00 Weekend World: with Brian Walden examines the Police Bill.

1.00 University Challenge: Undergraduates' general knowledge contest; 1.30 Police 5 with Shaw Taylor; 1.45 This Sporting Summer: Action-filled portrait of speedway rider John Davis; 2.15 London news headlines. Followed by: Film: The Lion Maiden (1982). Amiable British comedy about a veteran transport engine and an American aircraft designer (Michael Craig). With Alan Hale.

4.00 The Fugitive: Kimble (David Janssen) arouses the wrath of a religious zealot of a grandfather (Harry Towne) (1).

5.00 The Prince and Princess of Wales in Australia: Another ITV celebration of Down Under highlights.

5.30 The Boy Who Won the Poole: Sami (Vivienne McKone) is offered a recording contract in episode 8.

6.00 Creed: The Doctrine Commission and its role in the Church of England's search for a new image of God; 6.30 News.

6.40 Song to the Lord: Religious music from Cardiff (1).

7.15 Rising Damp: Lodging house comedy with Leonard Rossiter as the landlord (1).

7.45 Cuffy: The trinker (Bernard Cribbins) and the vacancy for a village hall caretaker.

8.15 Film: Echoes of a Summer (1975). Drama with Jodie Foster as the dying daughter of parents Richard Harris and Lois Nettleton.

10.00 News from ITV.

10.15 Edmund Keen: Repeat screening of "Gandhi" (1982). Keen's tour de force as the barnstorming 19th century actor (1).

11.15 A Gals Concert: James Loughran conducts the Hallé Orchestra in Walton's Violin Concerto (Nigel Kennedy is the soloist) and Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra.

12.40 Close: Brian Blessed reads something by Francis Bacon.



John Durrine (left) and Frank Middlemass in To Serve Them All My Days (BBC 2, 10.20 p.m.)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 1.55), ending with Maths Methods: Issues programme at 1.30.

1.55 Rugby Special: England Schools v Wales Schools 19 Group.

2.45 World Snooker: Second day's play in the Embassy World Professional Championship. More at 8.45, 9.10 and 11.30.

3.20 Film: The Charge of the Light Brigade (1936) Tip-top Errol Flynn about life in the 27th Lancers. A treat, too, for fans of Olivia de Havilland. Directed by Michael Curtiz.

5.10 News Review: with Jan Leeming and sub-titles.

5.45 World Snooker: More coverage of the Embassy championship.

6.30 The Money Programme: Why more holidaymakers are choosing to sail in Soviet craft and what Britain is doing about it.

7.15 The World About Us: The Sharkcraiders of Kontu. The spectacular and dangerous ritual practised off the west coast of New Ireland, Papua New Guinea. It could, however, soon be a thing of the past; 8.05 News and weather.

8.10 World Snooker: In action tonight are Dennis Taylor, Silvino Francisco, Willie Thorne and John Virgo.

8.50 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: Sean Connery and Severiano Ballesteros versus Howard Keel and Lee Trevino.

9.40 News: Though many of the city's East Enders have moved out, they still return from time to time to re-live memories and have a drink or watch football.

10.20 To Serve Them All My Days: Episode 2 of the R F Deidreid school story that won its first prize at the 1975 Festival of the Arts. With John Durrine and Frank Middlemass as teacher and headmaster (1).

11.15 Grand Prix: The French Grand Prix. Action from the Paul Ricard circuit near Marseille. Much fenced are the McLaren driver, Alain Prost and John Watson after their long beach triumphs.

11.50 World Snooker: Back to the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield for more play in the Embassy World Professional Championship. David Vine is in charge. Ends at 1.00am approximately.

CHANNEL 4

2.05 Today's History: Inflation - Who Wins? The battle that has been going on for 2,000 years.

2.30 Crucible - Science in Society: The health service that Zimbabwe inherited from Britain.

3.30 Right to Reply: Viewers in London and the South East give the thumbs-up or thumbs-down to Channel 4.

4.30 Master Bridge: First of 14 programmes in which top bridge players (including Omar Sharif and Rikie Marais) compete.

4.55 News headlines. Followed by: Root and Branch: The role that black and Asian workers play in trade union affairs in Britain.

5.30 The Outsiders: John Pilger interviews Sean MacBride, founder of Amnesty International.

6.00 Look Forward: Channel 4 preview.

6.15 Badminton: The continuing battle to find the top men's and women's pairings in the Famous Grouse World Doubles Challenge.

7.15 Music in Time: James Galway presents the first of 16 films about the history of music in the western world. Famous orchestras and artists take part.

8.15 Tell the Truth: New panel game, with Sue Arnold, Lynda Bellingham, Brian Hayes, and Jack Tinker. The MC is Graham Gorman.

8.45 Father's Day: New comedy series begins, starring John Alderton as the writer / husband / father. Rosalind Wiseman plays his wife. Written by To The Manor Born creator Peter Spence.

9.15 Brideshead Revisited: All eleven episodes of John Mortimer's highly acclaimed dramatization of Evelyn Waugh's novel are being repeated on Sunday nights. Tonight's opening instalment is the double-length one, and it takes Charles Ryder (Jeremy Thomas) back to Brideshead, home of the tormented Marchmonts. Co-starring Anthony Andrews, Diana Quick and John Gielgud (1).

11.10 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: The Diplomatic Corpse. The vanished body that prevents a couple from inheriting a fortune. With George Peppard and Peter Lorne. Ends at 11.40.

Radio 4

1.25 Shipping forecast.

1.32 Farming Today.

1.39 In Perspective: religious affairs.

1.55 Weather; travel.

2.00 Today's Papers.

2.10 On Your Farm.

2.45 In Perspective.

2.50 Today's Papers.

3.00 Yesterday in Parliament.

3.15 Weather; travel.

3.30 News.

3.45 Newsday: holiday and travel news.

3.55 News: review of weekly magazines.

4.05 World in Westminster.

4.15 Daily Service.

4.45 Pick of the Week.

4.55 From Our Own Correspondent.

5.00 News.

5.15 Money Box: everyday financial problems.

5.27 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue.

5.55 Weather.

6.00 News.

6.10 Question Time.

6.15 Shipping forecast.

6.20 News.

6.35 Thirty-Minute Theatre: A Sort of Family. Comedy by John Gielgud.

6.45 Butcher's, an inquiry into the Treasury (2).

6.55 Newsday: 12 programmes about our environment (2).

7.00 News.

7.15 International Assignment: BBC correspondents on a current issue.

7.30 News.

7.45 Double Take Super? Magazine for disabled people.

7.55 News.

8.00 News.

8.15 News.

8.30 News.

8.45 News.

8.55 News.

9.00 News.

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9.30 News.

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9.55 News.

10.00 News.

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11.00 News.

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11.30 News.

11.45 News.

11.55 News.

12.00 News.

12.15 News.

12.30 News.

12.45 News.

12.55 News.

1.00 News.

1.15 News.

1.30 News.

Letter from the Western Desert
Tourist road arrives to
ruin the last oasis

Orlando		L. Angeles*	c 17.65	Phoenix	f 6.43	Winnipeg	
Chicago*	c 5.41	Los Angeles	c 1.34	Raymond	c 1.34	Winnipeg	
Cologne	c 12.54	Madrid	s 19.65	Wynne	s 30.86	Winnipeg*	

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available